THE HISTORY OF THE GIANTS.

CONTAINING

Their barbarous Treatment of Kings, Queens, Princeſſes, Ladies, Knights, 'Squires, &c. whom they made their Priſoners. An Account of their Caſtles and inchanted Caſtles, built by Necromancers; and of other Caſtles, which were guarded by them and ſeveral wild Monſters. Their Combats and Battles, and how they were ſlain by Chriſtian Knights; a Deſcription of them, their Deaths, and how theſe Knights delivered ſeveral Kings, Queens, Ladies, &c. from Captivity.

WITH

A particular Account of the great Giants, *Brandamour* and *Siradon*, who were overcome by Sir *Morris*, General of King *Rimner's* Army.

How Sir *Thomas* killed the Giant *Surandrag*, and cut off the Head of the Giant *Bombomachides*, the Brother of *Surandrag*.

How the Giant *Trapſaca*, having killed all the Servants of the Princeſs of *Hungary* was overcome by Sir *Firebrrſe*, who alſo killed the Giant and Sorcerer *Aldrovandi*, who changed himſelf into a wild Boar, and afterwards into a frightful Dragon, &c.

The comical Adventures of valiant *John*, who, by his Stratagems, killed ſeveral Giants

How the Giant *Norſandal* and his Brother were killed by the Knight of the *Red Croſs*, &c.

Laſtly, how Sir *Alan* killed the Giant *Danagelſe*, who kept his father and Mother in Priſon; and afterwards married the Queen of the *Unknown Iſland*, with a Relation of a ſtrange Deluſion, with which ſhe entertained Knights and Ladies at her Court.

and the Story of King Lear.

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THE PREFACE TO THE READER.

THE following ſheets contain an account of the moſt remarkable facts and tranſactions of the Giants which we find recorded in hiſtory, whether ſacred or profane; and I have ſet Goliah in the front of the firſt part, and made it my choice to begin with him, becauſe every one who reads the Bible muſt acknowledge that there has been ſuch a perſon in the world. There has been, and there are ſtill, unhappy people in the world, who, through their over-abounding zeal for religion, (as they call it) make a ſacrifice of their ſenſe, and what is directly contray to truth and reaſon. Thus, for example, ſome affirm that there never were ſuch a race of men as giants; others again give it as their opinions, that if there ever had been ſuch a ſort of people, that they were deſtroyed in the general deluge that overſpread all the earth. It would be loſt labour to pretend to refute ſuch obſtinate people; but leſt others may be unwarily drawn into their erroneous opini-

on, my advice to them is, to look carefully inio the ſixth chapter of Geneſis, and into the ſeventeeth chapter of the firſt book of the prophet Samuel; in the former they will find mention made of giants before the flood; and there is a particular deſcription of one given after it in the latter. From hence then it plainly follows, that we muſt either acknowledge there were giants on the earth before and after the flood, or elſe we muſt diſallow the account given in the Bible to be true; and if there were giants in thoſe days, I ſee no reaſon why we may not believe there are ſome now, eſpecially when we conſider what large tracts of earth there are, which we have not yet diſcovered; but be that as it will, whether there are or are not, it is not material to our preſent purpoſe.

The following hiſtory carries with it a double advantage, firſt, in every chapter, or in every ſtory, we find excellent morality, virtue rewarded and vice puniſhed: the other advantge which I hint at is, that as children, and likewiſe thoſe who may be allowed to paſs under the name of youth, are much delighted with ſhort tales and ſtories, ſo they are inducements to them not only to learn to read, but alſo to improve themſelves therein, as they advance in years; and theſe two points are ſo very eſſentially neceſſary to every one both male and female, that it is a duty incumbent upon all parents to ſee their children well inſtructed therein, and as early as poſſible; for, as Solomon ſays, "Train up a child in the way he ſhould go, and when he is old he will hardly depart from it."

The

The antients invented fables and ſtories to entice and draw their children, (and thoſe likewiſe of advanced years, though young in underſtanding) into an abhorrence of vice, and a love of virtue and morality; and indeed it is no matter what innocent method is uſed, whether fiction or reality, provided we obtain the deſired end; nor is it of any moment or ſignification whether the following ſtories be true, in part or in the whole, or otherwiſe; their deſign, as I ſaid before, is good. I have been as ſhort upon each head as the nature of the ſubject will well bear; becauſe I would not over-burden the reader's memory, and thereby deprive him of the good which I intended he ſhould reap. All I ſhall add further is, that the readers will find both profit and pleaſure; and heartily wiſh that they may make that uſe of them which they were deſigned for.

THE

THE HISTORY OF THE GIANTS.

CHAP. I.

How Goliah, *the Champion of the* Philiſtines, *challenged the Army of* Iſrael; *how* David *encountered with him, and cut off his Head.*

HE that has been ever ſo little converſant with ſcripture or hiſtory, muſt acknowledge there has been ſuch a race of men in the world as giants, that is, perſons exceeding the reſt of mankind, in reſpect of their ſtrength, bulk, and ſtature; thus we read of giants in the ſixth chapter of Geneſis, which are ſuppoſed to be the off-ſpring of the ſons of God, who ſaw that the daughters of men were fair, and they took them wives of all which they choſe. But as the before mentioned chapter does not give us any particular account of thoſe giants, in regard to their heigth or ſize, we ſhall begin this treatiſe with the bully of the Philiſtine army, by name Goliah, as we find the ſame particularly recorded in the ſeventeenth chapter of the firſt of Samuel.

There

There had been a long war and enmity between the Philiſtines and the children of Iſrael, and though the former were generally routed, yet they reſolved to venture another battle: in order thereunto, they put their army in array, and drew them up on a mountain; and King Saul drew up his army alſo on another mountain, oppoſite the Philiſtines, there being a valley between them. The Philiſtines had a champion among them, as they called him, who came from

Gath, and was named Goliah; this man was ſix cubits and one ſpan in heighth, that is, according to the ordinary and common meaſure of the Iſraelites, he was nine feet and nine inches high, or three yards and nine inches: but if we go according to the meaſure of the tabernacle (which indeed is the moſt probable) then he was juſt double as much, that is, he was nineteen feet

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and a half, or six yards one foot and nine inches high. He had an helmet of brass upon his head, and was armed with a coat of mail, which weighed four thousand shekels of brass, every shekel weighed upwards of two ounces, or according to the tabernacle weight upwards of four ounces; he had also greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders: the staff his spear was like a weaver's beam, and the head of it weighed six hundred shekels of iron. Being thus armed from head to foot, and trusting to his busk and strength, he marched forth out of the camp of the Philistines, and stood and challenged the army of Israel, saying, "Am not I a Philistine, and you the Servants to Saul? chuse you a man on your side, and let him come down to me."

It happened that the three eldest sons of Jesse went volunteers with Saul, and their father being apprehensive that they might want provisions in the camp, called his youngest son, David, who was tending sheep, and sent him to conduct to his brethren a quantity of parched corn, and ten loaves, and ten cheeses, as a present to their captain. Accordingly he arose up early in the morning, and came to the army just as they were giving the signal to begin the battle; and being of a martial spirit, he left the carriage and provisions with the keeper, and ran to the army to salute his brethren: while he was talking with them, Goliah came forth again and challenged the Israelites as before, at which they fled most shamefully.

David having heard and beheld these things, and being also informed that Saul had promised

abundance

abundance of riches, great privilege, and likewiſe his daughter in marriage to any man who ſhould kill Goliah, determined privately to undertake to do it; but was reſolved firſt to make a ſtrict enquiry, whether there was any foundation for ſuch a report, and finding it to be true, he would fight ſingly with the Philiſtine Bravo. This being told to Saul, he ſent for David, who ſaid unto him, "Let no man be afraid, O king, thy ſervant will go and fight with this Philiſtine." But Saul anſwered, "Thou art not able to cope with him, thou art but young, and he has been trained up in war from his youth." "Young as I am," replied David, "when I tended my father's ſheep, there came a lion and a bear, and took each of them a lamb out of the flock, but I purſued them, and killed them, and I will alſo kill this uncircumciſed Philiſtine, becauſe he has defied the armies of the living God." Saul was well-pleaſed with what David had ſaid, and approved his reſolution, and put on him his own armour, a helmet of braſs upon his head, and armed with a coat of mail: then David girded his ſword upon his armour, but finding that all theſe accoutrements were too heavy for him, being ſo unwieldy in them that he could not walk, he was neceſſitated to put them off. He then took his ſtaff, and chuſing five ſmooth ſtones out of the brook, put them into his ſcrip, and holding his ſling in his hand, approached undauntedly towards the Philiſtine bully. Goliah drew near to David, and deſpiſed him, becauſe he was young, ruddy, and of a fair countenace; and being angry, ſaid, "Am I a dog that you are come to meet me with

with a staff?" and he cursed David by his gods, and told him that he would give his flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field. But David, no way disheartened at his threats, answered, "You come to me with sword, with a spear, and with shield, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied; and this day he will deliver thee into my hands, and I will cut off your head, and the carcases of the Philistines shall be given this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth, that the world may know there is a God in Israel, who will let your army know that he saveth not with sword and spear, but that the battle is his, and he will deliver them into our hands."

Goliah marched towards him with the greatest signs of wrath and disdain; David, with a chearful countenance, hastened to meet him, and being come as near as he thought convenient for his purpose, put his hand in his bag or scrip, took out one of the five stones, and slung it with such force, that it sunk into Goliah's forehead, and he fell down upon the ground. David seeing he had such good success, ran to the Philistine's champion, drew his sword out of the scabbard, and therewith cut off Goliah's head, for David had no sword of his own.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

How the Giant Brandamour, *King of Damascus, sent a proud threatning Letter to King* Rimner, *to demand his Daughter in Marriage: How Sir* Morrice *was made General of King* Rimner's *Army, killed the Giant* Siradon, *overcame Brandamour, and being trepanned to his Court, was cast into the Den of Lions, whom he slew, then killed the Keepers, and the Giant* Brandamour, *and made his Escape.*

RIMNER, King of Alexandria, having only one daughter, whose name was Florina, and whose beauty made the world to ring far and near, was solicited by many kings, princes, and potentates to give her to them in marriage; amongst the rest, Brandamour, King of Damascus, was one, who, in a haughty, proud, and insolent manner, demanded to have her for his wife, otherwise he would proclaim war against him, and swore by his gods that he would not only take her by force, but destroy all the country by fire and sword. King Rimner having received this insulting message, summoned his counsel together, and they agreed to give battle to the proud Brandamour, who was a huge giant, rather than comply with his request, but they were at a loss to find a proper person to be their general.

It happened that a young British gentleman, whose name was Morrice, had been shipwrecked at Alexandria, but bred up in the court of King Rimner, who, for several exploits he had

done, designed to give him his daughter, the fair Florina, who loved him dearly, and not doubting but he would fight manfully in his mistresses cause, made him commander of the army. Now, that his credit among the soldiers might be the greater, the king knighted him, and upon mustering the army, he found that it consisted of 20,000 men. Then taking leave of the court, he marched at the head of his army to meet his proud insulting foe.

He found him encamped upon a large plain at the entrance of King Rimner's territories; but the Giant King Brandamour, whose soldiers would be reckoned Giants in our days, having double the number of forces, began to jeer and flout at Sir Morrice. However, in a few hours, a dreadful battle began, and nothing was to be heard but the clashing of swords and shouts of the victors; and Sir Morrice perceiving that the Saracens flocked about the standard of their king, which was carried by the Giant Siradon, he broke into that quarter, and charged upon him with his spear, which piercing his armour, ran quite through his body. He brought away the standard with his own hand, and entering into the battle again, was encountered by the Giant Brandamour; but after a short engagement, Sir Morrice, redoubling his blow, cut through Brandamour's helmet, who, falling to the ground, called out for mercy, offering towns and castles for the ransom of his life. Sir Morrice told him, that if he would do homage to King Rimner, he would set him free from the fury of the enraged soldiers. The giant paused a while upon this hard condition, but

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was forced to submit to it, and thereupon both armies withdrew.

Brandamour, who bore a deadly hatred to Sir Morice, pretending, after some months had passed, that some neighbouring kings were coming to invade his territories, requested King

Rimner that he would let Sir Morrire come and command his army: To this he consented, and the knight set out for the City of Damascus, where he soon arrived. He was kindly entertained the first night, but the next morning, early, the Giant Brandamour called his council together to consult what death they should put Sir Morrice to. Some were for hanging him, others for taking off his skin, others for boiling him in oil; but it was concluded to put him in a

dungeon to be devoured by two lions. Sir Morrice having notice of what was designed against him, entreated the giant to let him, as he was a knight and a soldier, die like the latter: but the king, without any reply, commanded him to be cast into the dungeon immediately; so that being bound in chains, and let down by ropes, the lions began to come upon him, and being ready to be devoured by them, redoubling his force he burst his chains asunder, and finding an old rusty sword, he killed the lions, but not without receiving many wounds from their claws; here he had nothing to subsist him but the flesh of those beasts, which in a few days stunk abominably, and the giant being informed by the keepers that Sir Morrice had killed the lions, resolved to put him to a lingering death, and ordered a bowl of bran and water to be given him every day.

The keepers in a few days believing that their prisoner was dead, resolved to make a trial; and calling to Sir Morrice, who was praying fervently for his deliverance, and not receiving any answer, one of them went down by a rope, on whom Sir Morrice seized and killed, and the other following after he broke his neck, with a blow of his fist, and falling upon his knees gave thanks to Heaven, and then ascended by the rope.

It was now near midnight when Sir Morrice escaped from the dungeon, and entering into Brandamour's castle, furnished himself with a good sword and armour, and went directly to the giant's chamber, who was then going into bed. Hereupon Sir Morrice called to him to defend himself, and he, surprised to find his

enemy

enemy ſo near him, took up a huge maſſy weapon, and made at Sir Morrice with ſuch force that if he had hit him, he would have broke every bone in his body, but the knight dexterouſly avoided the blow, and run his ſword into the giant's body, who fell dead on the floor. Sir Morrice went to the ſtable, and taking one of the beſt horſes, made his eſcape to King Rimner.

CHAP. III.

How Sir Thomas, *a Chriſtian knight, killed the Giant* Surandrag, *and cut off the Head of his Brother* Bombomachides, *another Giant, and undertook to reſtore his Wife to her Chriſtian Parents, and what happened upon the Road.*

SIR Thomas, a Chriſtian knight, returning from the wars in the Holy Land, was encountered by the Giant Surandrag, who, coming up to him, ſwore that no Chriſtian ſhould paſs that way: whereupon Sir Thomas anſwered, "You ſhall ſoon know that the God of the Chriſtians, will give me the victory, and thy life be taken from thee." At this the giant, relying upon his ſtrength, and calling upon his idol gods, prepared for the combat, as did Sir Thomas alſo; and having put their ſpears in their reſts, ran furiouſly againſt each other, ſo that Surandrag was unhorſed and tumbled on the ground. Riſing on a ſudden he drew his ſword, and Sir Thomas did the like; and after ſeveral blows exchanged on each ſide, the knight,

with redoubled force, made at him, and the ſtroke falling upon his helmet, clove it with his head aſunder; and then leaving him dead upon the ſpot, mounted the giant's horſe and rode on. But finding that he was cloſely purſued by a great number, being alſo weak and faint, through hunger, and knowing it was in vain to encounter ſo huge a troop as was in purſuit of him, he leaped his horſe into an arm of the ſea, truſting to Providence (rather than Infidels) and ſwam ſafe to the oppoſite ſhore, and by that means eſcaped, none daring to venture to purſue him.

Having thus miraculouſly got ſafe away from his foes, he was troubled with the worſt of enemies, hunger; and was ready to faint, when looking about he ſaw a caſtle at a ſmall diſtance, and made up to it. A beautiful lady leaned over the wall and ſung, to pleaſe herſelf and divert time; to whom Sir Thomas addriſſed himſelf in theſe words—

"Madam, I am a Chriſtian knight in ſearch of adventures, but labouring at preſent under the greateſt neceſſity, do intreat you to ſupply me with ſuch proviſions as your caſtle affords."

"Ah! Sir Knight, ſays the lady, I pity your hardſhip and the danger you are in; my huſband, who has forced me from my parents, who are Chriſtians, is a bloody Pagan Giant, and if he knew you were here, he would ruſh out ſuddenly and deſtroy you." Sir Thomas thanked her and ſaid, that as he was reſolved to die in battle rather than through hunger, ſo if he was conqueror, he would dine in the caſtle that day. Hereupon he made up to the gate, and preſently out came the Giant Bombomachides, and ſtaring

and ſtaring on him with a grim viſage, ſaid, "Fellow, whom and what art thou? How came you to get poſſeſſion of that horſe, which if I miſtake not, is my brother Surandrag's? but I ſhall chaſtize thee for thy impudence, in daring thus to approach my caſtle without my leave and conſent." Before Sir Thomas could ſpeak, the giant ſtruck at him with a huge and weighty battle-ax, but miſſing him, hit the knight's horſe with ſuch force, that he felled him to

the ground. Sir Thomas diſengaging himſelf nimbly from his ſadle, charged Bombomachides with ſuch fury, that he made him give ground: then he retired to the gate of the caſtle, and taking his bow that hung at the wall, ſhot at the knight with a forked arrow, which piercing his ſhoulder occaſioned much pain. Being the more enraged at this, Sir Thomas purſued him

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ſo cloſe, that with a forcible blow, which hit him between the neck and the ſhoulders, he ſtruck off his head. Hereupon the lady ſhrieked, and would have fled to the woods for fear of Sir Thomas; but he promiſing to do her no harm, ſhe at laſt conſented to ſtay, and in the great hall of the caſtle ſhe ſet before him ſuch proviſions as ſhe had, and when he had eat, he releaſed all the priſoners in the caſtle, and taking the lady under his protection, promiſed to conduct her ſafe to her parents.

Early the next morning, they mounted their horſes, attended by no other company but by a little page, who belonged to the lady; and travelling through foreſts all day, and night drawing on, they were obliged to take up their lodgings in a rocky cave. While Sir Thomas went in ſearch of proviſions, a lion and a lioneſs entered the cave, which it ſeems was the place of their repoſe, and the page, to defend his miſtreſs and himſelf againſt their fury, drew his ſword and maintained a ſtout combat, but he being too weak and unſkilful, was immediately devoured. They did not offer to approach the lady, whoſe virginity was her protection. As ſoon as Sir Thomas approached the cave, ſhe forewarned him of the great danger, but his dauntleſs ſoul and honour would not permit him to commit ſo diſhonourable an action; and then entering the cave, he ruſhed upon the lions with ſuch fury, that he ſoon laid them dead, and he knew, by their not having aſſaulted her, that ſhe had preſerved her virginity. The next morning they purſued their journey, and ſo we ſhall leave them.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

How the Giant Trapſaca, *having kill'ed all the Servants of the Princeſs of* Hungary, *was overcome by Sir* Firebraſe, &c. *who alſo fought with and kilied the Giant and Sorcerer,* Aldrovandi, *who could change himſelf into any Shape.*

THERE was a prince in Germany, who was the moſt abominable and luſtful tyrant that ever lived, and his chief pleaſure and delight was in debauching Chriſtian virgins, and putting Chriſtian knights to the moſt torturing death: and the better to accompliſh his wicked actions, he retained in his ſervice a huge and monſtrous giant, whoſe name was Trapſaca. He was thirty feet, or ten yards in height, and twelve feet or four yards in circumference, whoſe buſineſs was to ſtand a croſs a high road near a foreſt ſide, and ſeize all paſſengers, without having any regard to ſex or condition, and to bring them to the prince.

It happened that the Princeſs of Hungary travelled that way with a ſmall retinue, and were ſurprized and attacked by this giant, who ſtood acroſs the road like a coloſſus, and with a mighty club in his hand, forbid their paſſage further, ſaying, that he was glad that he ſhould have an opportunity of carrying them bound on his back to Prince Bamtram. The princeſs was frighted out of her wits, but as the giant went to lay hold on her, they that attended her drew their ſwords in her defence, and gave her an opportunity of eſcaping, though at the expence

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of their lives.

As ſhe was galloping away ſhe met a truſty knight, by name Firebraſe, to whom ſhe applied herſelf in the following manner—"Ah! ſir knight, I perceive you are a Chriſtian, ſave therefore and protect a Chriſtian princeſs from the unhallowed hands of a huge giant, who I fear has deſtroyed all my ſervants, and would have carried me priſoner to the luſtful tyrant, Prince Bamtram."—"Madam, replied Sir Firebraſe, to relieve the oppreſſed, particularly thoſe of the fair-ſex, is the duty of every knight, therefore where may I find this unbaptized monſter, that I may let him know Heaven takes care of its votaries, and regards not thoſe who worſhip idols?" While they were thus in diſcourſe, up comes the giant Trapſaca, ſaying, "Ho, ho, have I found you? all your ſervants are diſpatched, and now you muſt go with me to the prince, and this young ſtripling with you." Sir Firebraſe, nothing afraid of his ſtern viſage, and monſtrous ſtature, told him that if he did not depart from them inſtantly, he would cut a paſſage through his body; at this the giant came at Sir Firebraſe with fury, who, the better to avoid the force of his club, quitted his horſe, and traverſing his ground, nimbly gave the giant many wounds. To revenge himſelf on the Knight, the giant, thinking with a full blow to daſh Sir Firebraſe in pieces with his club, over-reached himſelf, and, ſtumbling, fell; nor could he, by reaſon of his own unwieldineſs, recover before the knight was upon him, who being about to take off his head, cried out for quarters, promiſing to be his true ſervant all

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his life after: and he told him further that if he killed him, he and the princeſs would certainly fall into the hands of Prince Bamtram, who would deſtroy the one, and deflower the

other. "For, continued he, the roar I gave, which made the foreſts tremble, has alarmed all the prince's guard, who watch at every avenue, and therefore you have no way left to eſcape but thro' the bye-roads."

The princeſs having due regard to what the giant ſaid, prevailed with Sir Firebraſe to ſave his life, which he did accordingly, and ſwore him to be true to them; and then he conducted them ſafe to the next ſea-port, where lay a ſhip ready to ſail, but the mariners refuſed to take them in. The giant Trapſaca looking back, and being, as I ſaid before, thirty foot in height,

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ſaw ſeveral troops in purſuit of them; whereupon he told the princeſs and the knight, that if they did not permit him to ſeize upon the veſſel, they muſt fall a ſacrifice to prince Bamtram. They left him to do as he pleaſed, then laying hold of the veſſel, he held it with a ſtrong hand, in ſpite of ſails, winds, and oars, till he entered by force, and drove the ſailors out of it: then, taking the princeſs and Sir Firebraſe under one arm, and their horſes under another, he carried them on board, and managing the ſails and tackle by his ſole ſtrength, he landed them ſafe on another ſhore, which happened to be in the territories of the Princeſs of Bohemia's uncle.

The knight having preſented the princeſs ſafe to her uncle, and related every thing that had paſſed was very nobly entertained; and the people were overjoyed at his coming, hoping they ſhould be freed from a dreadful giant, who was alſo a ſorceror, and had deſtroyed many of the inhabitants and laid the country waſte. Sir Firebraſe undertook to deſtroy this diabolical monſter in due time; and prevailed with the Giant Trapſaca to embrace the chriſtian faith and be babtized; and to this he conſented.

At the ſide of a mountain, not far from the city, there lived a giant in a cave, who could change himſelf into any ſhape. This giant, whoſe name was Aldrovandi, had poiſoned lately a knight with his breath: however at the intreaties of the inhabitants, Sir Firebraſe went early one morning to meet this monſter, and ſcarce had he approached the cave, when the giant putting out his head, gave ſuch an horri-

ble

ble yell, that it affrighted all the inhabitants of the city. At last he came out of his cave, and said to the knight, "Three hundred of thy brethren, men of strength and judgment, have I devoured, and does such a stripling as thou art think thyself capable of encountering with me, but it is no matter, I will make thee one part of my breakfast." Take care, replies Sir Firebrase, lest these prove to be the last words which you shall speak. Hereupon the giant greedy of his prey, made at the knight; but meeting with a much warmer reception than he expected, and finding Sir Firebrase to be a man of strength and judgment, immediately transformed himself into a wild boar.

The knight was a little surprised at this, and observing the monster's bristles to stand an end, he ran against him with his lance, which shivered in pieces, and then he was obliged to draw his sword, and laying upon the monster's head, and nimbly avoiding the fury of his tusks, a dreadful engagement ensued. The skin of the beast was so hard, that he appeared in a manner incapable of receiving any wound; insomuch that the knight began to be weary of pursuing his blows, and therefore retired to recover himself. The monster seeing this, came at him with such fury, that he gave him a deep wound in his thigh with his tusks, and as he attempted to redouble it, Sir Firebrase with great force and rage, thrust his sword under the lower jaw, and the skin being somewhat soft, it entered; then the boar fell to the ground, and the knight seeing this, made up to him in hopes to dispatch him quite, but as he approached, the boar was

changed into a moſt frightful dragon.

The eyes of the monſter burned like two beacons, he had a tripple ſting, and a tail of infinite length; then lifting up his creſt, hiſſing horribly, and caſting fire and poiſon out of his mouth, he made towards the knight. Sir Firebraſe ran forcibly againſt him with his ſpear, but his ſcales being harder than any braſs, it burſt in pieces and ſhivered in the air: whereupon he drew his truſty ſword, and laid at him furiouſly, but could by no means wound him. The dragon whiſking his tail about, beat the knight from his horſe, and very much bruiſed him, and with his talons rent the armour; but Sir Firebraſe, nothing daunted, avoided his ſtrokes as nimbly as he might, and ſtruck as often as he ſaw occaſion. In the end, the monſter caſting out poiſon, and infecting the air with his venomous breath, which cauſed the knight to faint a little; but retiring towards a well, which was near him, he perceived the monſter, which purſued him, to make a ſtop at ſome diſtance from it. Sir Firebraſe concluded from hence that there was ſome extrordinary virtue in the water of the well; nor did he fail in his conjecture, for (as he afterwards underſtood) a ſaint like virgin having waſhed herſelf all over in this well, communicated the virtue to the water, ſo that keeping off his infectious enemy, which could advance no farther, he not only obtained breathing time, but drinking thereof, his ſtrength and vigour was renewed as at firſt. As often as the knight found himſelf annoyed by the poiſon, which iſſued forth from the dragon's mouth, he retired to the well, and

when

when he had refreſhed himſelf and recovered his ſtrength, went again to the combat. The dragon being at laſt very much bruiſed and wounded, began to take wing in order to eſcape; but Sir Firebraſe eſpying with a ſharp eye a bare place under his wings, which had no ſcales upon it or any thing elſe for its defence, ſave the wings when they lay cloſe upon him, reſolutely ſtept up, and making a home thruſt, ſheathed his ſword in his ſide with ſuch force that it pierced through his heart. Hereupon, with a horrible roar, which was heard over moſt part of the country, the monſter fell dead at the knight's feet. The knight was exceeding glad of the victory which he obtained, not ſo much for the honour which he ſhould gain, as that he had delivered the country from ſuch a helliſh monſter: and then raiſing the ſcales of its neck, the dragon was ſuddenly changed into the ſhape of the giant Aldrovandi. Sir Firebraſe perceiv'd that the body had many deep wounds in it; and having waſhed his own in ſome of the water, which he took out of the well, they were perfectly heal'd; he then cut off the giant's head, and bore it in triumph to the city. He was met by people of all diſtinctions, who entertained him with ſongs of triumphs, calling him their deliverer, cauſing the bells to ring and bonfires to be made, and as a perpetual memorial of this victory, placed the head of the giant Aldrovandi upon the higheſt tower in the city.

CHAP. V.

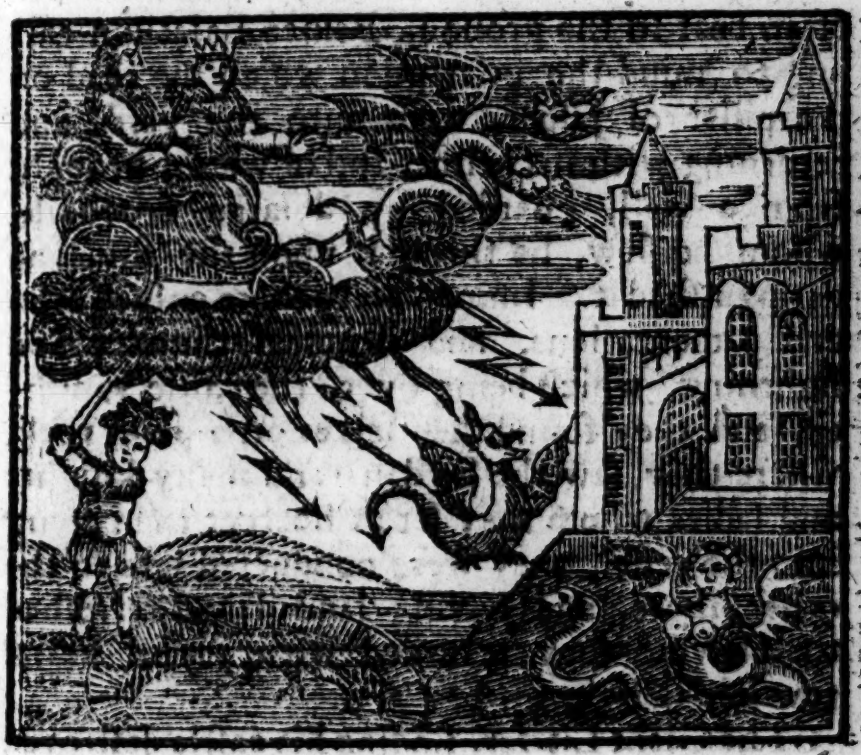
How the Giant Litafer *carried away the Soldan of* Egypt, *and kept him in his enchanted castle, which was guarded by sea monsters, serpents, dragons, giants, &c. and how the Prince* Balatison *and the Knight of* Hope *broke the inchantment, and set the Soldan and many knights and ladies free. How afterwards the same giant seized upon the Prince* Carnelio *and his sister the Princess* Mouresa, *whom the Knight of Hope rescued, and killed the giant.*

IN the road to Antioch, lived a bloody giant, whose name was Litafer, and who was a very great magician. he had enchanted several, among whom was the Soldan of Babylon, whom he detained a prisoner; and several knights and princes having seen the soldan carried away in a chariot, drawn by two dragons, they pursued it as far as the Caspian sea, but could not reach the castle wherein he was, which stood on the top of a high rock. On a sudden they saw a small bark sailing by the shore, which they entered, and arrived safe at the foot of the rock, which was defended by many dreadful sea monsters: and these were encountered by Prince Balatison and the Knight of Hope, who alone undertook to set the Soldan free.

Having gained this point, they approached near the enchanted castle, and sought, but could find no entrance; at last the Knight of Hope espying a cave entered into it, and fought with and overcome two monstrous serpents and fol-

low-

lowing a glimmering light, came into a ſpacious court yard, where he was aſſaulted by two monſtrous dragons, which he likewiſe ſlew. When he went a little farther he found a baſket with a long rope, which he let down by



the wall, and drew up Prince Balatiſon, and going forward they blew a horn, which hung at the gate, and it immediately opened, when out came two giants, who fell upon them with huge battle axes. After a ſharp combat they ſlain and another door opening they entered into a hall, ſupported with pillars of jaſper, on one of which was this inſcription, "Though the guards are ſlain, yet the enchantment ſhall not be finiſhed unleſs the fire be put out." Having read this, they looked about and ſaw a bell,

which they rung, and the door opening, a ſmall fire appeared in the middle of a large vault; they made towards it, and were furiouſly aſſaulted with many blows, but could not ſee any perſon: and ſuch forcible whirlwinds, with lightning and thunder beat upon them, that they were often beat to the ground. Prince Balatiſon calling to mind the inſcription which he read on the pillar of jaſper, went into the yard, and returning with his helmet full of water, brought from a well, guarded by a large crocodile, whom he ſlew, he threw it upon the fire, and extinguiſhed it. Immediately there enſued cries and lamentations, and dreadful thunder and lightning, which being over, the caſtle vaniſhed, and they found themſelves on a plain rock, where they ſaw the Soldan, and many knights and ladies whom they ſet at liberty; then going into the veſſel, they were conducted ſafe to the other ſhore, and having landed and refreſhed themſelves, they travelled with joyful hearts towards Babylon.

The Giant Litafer, finding his caſtle deſtroyed which de had erected by inchantment, retired to his other caſtle of the black rock, in the road to Antioch, where he ſurpriſed the paſſengers that travelled that way, or lay one night near him. As the Knight of Hope was one morning in purſuit of new adventures, he perceived a knight all over blood, riding in great haſte to him, ſaid with a faint voice, as you are a Chriſtian Knight, haſte to relieve the Prince Carnelio and his ſiſter the Princeſs Mouroſa, whom Litafer, a great giant, has with ſeveral other ladies ſurpriſed in their way

to

to Antioch, and is now carrying them captives to his caſtle of the black rock.

Hereupon the Knight of Hope ſet ſpurs to his horſe, and ſoon perceived a troop of ladies and damſels, and one gallant man advancing towards him, guarded by the giant and his ſervants, and demanded why he took them away againſt their wills? the giant bid him not enquire into other people's affairs, leſt he alſo ſhould become one of the number. The Knight of Hope was ſo enraged at this that he charged him ſo violently with his lance, that he threw him from his horſe, at which the other knight came up, and unbinding the prince a dreadful combat enſued. They ſlew ſeveral knights and giants of the adverſe party, who gave back, not being able longer to endure their ſtrokes. Litafer, the giant, perceiving to his great ſurpriſe that he ſhould loſe the day, took the princeſs in his arms, and rode away with her full ſpeed, but at the outcry of her damſels the Knight of Hope purſued and overtook him, and there having paſſed at leaſt two hundred blows between them, the giant's head was at laſt ſtruck off.

The victory being thus gained, thanks were given to the Knight of Hope, who taking his leave rode away to be cured of his wounds.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

How valiant John *by a ſtratagem killed the* Corniſh *giant, and how he was recompenced for the ſame. How in his travels to* Wales *he was ſeized by the weſtern giant* Redhoar, *who carried him to his caſtle; and of the dreadful ſights which* John *ſaw there. How he ſerved that giant and another, cut off their heads, and delivered three fair ladies, who were priſoners in the caſtle. How he outwitted the* Welch *Giant with two heads, and cauſed him to kill himſelf.*

VALIANT John was the only ſon of a very rich and wealthy farmer, near the lands end of England, and was called the Giant killer, from his many famous exploits and gallant atchievements; he was very ſharp by nature, cunning and full of wit, and what he could not perform by ſtrength, he accompliſhed by ſtratagem, trick, and artifice.

It happened in thoſe days that there was a great giant who inhabited the Mount of Cornwall; he was twelve foot in heighth, and two yards in circumference, his countenance was fierce and grim, and his eye-balls like two great ſauce-pans, and flaming like fire. He was the terror of all the neighbouring towns and villages, and the place of his habitation was a cave in the midſt of the mount, nor would he ſuffer any creature to live near him. His food was the cattle of the neighbourhood, which he took away at pleaſure, and he could eaſily furniſh himſelf with whatſoever he wanted; for upon his

his approach the people would run away, and then he would ſeize upon their cows and oxen, and carry half a ſcore of them upon his back at a time; and as for their ſheep and hogs he would tie them round his waſte, and carry them to his cave. This he had practiſed for many years, ſo that great part of the county of Cornwall was very much impoveriſhed by him and almoſt deſolate.

The magiſtrates of the county having been aſſembled, to conſult about proper means to work the deſtruction of this giant, after many propoſals of one kind or other, truly nothing could enter into their wiſeacre's heads, that ſignified any thing to the purpoſe. At length valiant John, upon humble petition to the worſhipful company of Blunderbuſſes, was admitted, who aſked them what they would give him or any other perſon who ſhould kill the giant; they anſwered that as a recompence for ſuch a good piece of ſervice, he ſhould have all the giant's treaſure. Ay, marry, quoth John is it ſo? then I will do the work.

John having furniſhed himſelf with a pick-ax and ſhovel goes to the mount in the beginning of a dark winter evening, and began to dig a pit on that ſide of the mount, where the giant ſeldom came; this he continued for many nights, making it fifteen foot deep and in the ſhape of a well, after which he laid long ſticks and weeds over it, ſo that it appeared as the plain ground. Early in the morning John placed himſelf on the other ſide of the pit, began to blow a horn which he had with him; which unexpected noiſe rouſed the giant out of his

ſleep

ſleep, who coming towards John ſaid, O you incorrigible villain! you ſhall pay dearly for coming here to diſturb my reſt: I will have ſatisfaction from your body, for I will boil you you whole for my breakfaſt. Will you ſo, quoth John? I pray you be as good as your promiſe, otherwiſe I ſhall not take your word another time. The giant being inraged to hear himſelf punn'd upon at this rate, made forward towards John, but had ſcarce gone a dozen

ſteps when he fell into the pit, ſo ho, quoth John, where are you now, Giant? in good faith, you are in Loh's Pound, and there you ſhall do penance, but Hark you giant will you boil me now? will nothing ſerve you but poor John? what do you think now of broiling me for your breakfaſt? having thus plagued and

tantalized

tantalized the giant a while, he gave him a a Harry the Eight's knock on the head with his pick-ax, which did his buſineſs; he then ſhovelled the earth upon him, and went to his cave where he found much treaſure.

When the magiſtrates heard that valiant John had finiſhed his work effectually, at which their ſpirits began to be enlivened, tho' ſome of them did not ſmell ſo ſweet as a civet cat, they ſent for him; and then their wiſe noddies came to a reſolution that John ſhould be qualified to wear a ſword. Accordingly they preſented him with one, together with an embroidered belt, on which theſe words were wrought in letters of gold—

This is the valiant Corniſh *Man,*
Who killed the Giant Morligan.

The report of this victory coming to the ears of another giant, who lived about Mendiphills, whoſe name was Redboar, he ſwore by the Pagan gods that he would be revenged of valiant John if ever it was is fortune to lay hold of him. John about ſix months after the famous exploit, which he had done, travelled towards Wales, and growing weary ſat himſelf down at the ſide of a pleaſant ſpring to refreſh himſelf, but moſt unfortunately fell aſleep. The giant coming there for water, found valiant John, and knew who he was by the lines written upon his belt, and reſolved to be revenged on him for killing his brother giant; thereupon without more adieu, he lays hold of him and throws him over his ſhoulder, as a fox does a gooſe and'

and carries him home to the caſtle. As they paſſed through a wood the ruſhing of the boughs wakened John, who finding himſelf in the poſſeſſion of a giant, was moſt terribly frightened; but he was much more ſo, when entering the walls of the caſtle, he ſaw the ground covered with the bones and ſkulls of men and women, and the giant Redboar, told him that his ſhould encreaſe the number. After this he brought John into a large parlour, which looked like butcher's ſhambles, ſave only that the parlour was hung round with the quarters of men and [illegible] who were lately ſlain: and in the next room to it were their hearts and livers, which the giant ſaid were is chiefeſt dainties; and told John he did not doubt but his heart would prove a dainty bit. The next thing which the giant did was to lock up John in an upper room, leaving him there till he brought another giant, who was his neighbour, to make their breakfaſt upon poor John.

While he was abſent, dreadful ſhrieks and cries were heard in the caſtle, and a voice continually cried—

Valiant John, *now play your part,*
Uſe all your cunning and your art;
The giant has his brother got,
If here you are found you go to pot.

Valiant John was much amazed to hear theſe words, and could not ſee any body; he knew not what to do, or method to uſe in order to ſet himſelf free, and going to the window he beheld the two giants at ſome diſtance, and believing

believing his death or deliverance was now at hand, finding ſome ſtrong cords in the room, a lucky thought came into his head. He made a nooſe at the end of each cord, and while the Giant Redboar was unlocking the iron gate, the other giant ſtanding by him, John very fortunately flung the nooſes over their heads, and the other ends acroſs a large beam, where he pulled with all his ſtrength. Believing that by this time he had throttled the giants, he faſtened the cord to the beam, and returning to the window ſaw the two giants black in the face; then ſliding down by another rope or cord upon their heads, he drew out his ſword, cut off their heads, and ſo delivered himſelf from their intended cruelty.

John ſeeing a bunch of keys at Giant Redboar's girdle, took them and unlocked the caſtle gate; and upon ſtrict ſearch found three beautiful ladies tied up by the hair of their heads, and almoſt ſtarved to death; for the giant had kept them ſeveral days without food, in order to force them to feed upon the fleſh of their murdered huſbands. They were very much aſtoniſhed to ſee valiant John, but he ſoon put an end to all their fears, by telling them that he had deſtroyed the brutiſh monſter, and his brother giant, and then he ſet the ladies at liberty, and purſued his way to Wales.

As valiant John was travelling forward he loſt his road, and being benighted could not find any place of entertainment; at laſt coming into a valley, he found a large houſe in a loneſome and deſolate place, which he did not half like; but conſidering his preſent neceſſity, hunger

ger preſſing him forwards, he took courage to knock at the gate, and to his great amazement out comes a giant with two heads. But though he was a Welch giant, yet he did not ſeem to be ſo paſſionate as the reſt; for what miſchief he did was under a ſhow of colour and friendſhip.

John telling him what condition he was in, the giant gave him ſome refreſhment, then ſhewed him a room with a bed in it, where he was to lie that night.

As John began to undreſs himſelf, the giant walked into his own apartment, but was overheard to ſay, Tho' I have given him a lodging for this night, yet he ſhall not live to ſee the morning's ſun. Say you ſo? quoth John to himſelf, this is like one of your Welch tricks; but it ſhall go hard with me if I be not too cunning for you. Then feeling about in the dark John lays hold of a log of wood, which he placed in the bed in his own ſtead, and hid himſelf in the corner of the room; about midnight in comes the giant with his club, and ſtriking many heavy blows upon the billet believing it to be John, and that he had broke all the bones in his body, retuened to his own apartment. Valiant John came the next morning to give the giant thanks for his entertainment, who aſked him how he reſted? and whether he felt any thing in the night? yes, quoth John I felt a rat, which gave me three or four ſlaps with her tail. Preſently breakfaſt was prepared, which was a bowl of haſty pudding, and John having found a leather bag conveyed it privately under his coat, and put all his breakfaſt in there; for he was very loath

loth to let the giant see that he could not be able to eat as much as he, when he could bear all his thumps and blows, as the giant believed, and not be bruised. What will you give me, quoth valiant John to the giant, if I teach you to do a clever trick as well as I can? let me see quoth the giant what your trick is, and then I will talk to you. Hold you there says Jack to the giant, there goes two words to a bargain; for when I have made you as wise as myself, then it lies in your own choice whether you will give me any thing for the trick, or not. If I approve of your trick, quoth the giant, and do not reward you to your heart's content, then I will give you leave to cut both my wind-pipes. Marry, quoth John, I am not so blood-thirsty neither, and therefore I will trust to your word. Hereupon he takes his knife cuts open the Bag, and lets out all the hasty pudding, there's a trick for you now, quoth he. The giant supposing that valiant John had cut open his belly, and seeing that he did not receive any damage thereby, cried, Cot's splutter-a-nails, hur can do that trick hurself; then taking his long knife, ripped open his belly, and out dropt his tripe and trully bubs, and he died upon the spot

CHAP. VIII.

How valiant John *put a trick upon a giant with three heads, who was his uncle, by which means he supplied the king's son with gold, and what recompence the giant made him, by giving him the most valuable presents, for saving his life as he supposed. How* John *by the help of his invisible coat, and sword of sharpness, rescued a knight and lady from a great giant, whom he killed; and how he killed another giant, brother to the former, set several persons at liberty, and divided the giant's treasure among them.*

AS valiant John was pursuing his journey, he met with the king's son, who had given all his money away in charity; and being now hungry he grew pensive and melancholy. John being acquainted with the reason of his pensiveness, bid him have a good heart, and not be troubled, for if he would give him leave to attend him till the morning he promised that he should fare well, and not want for gold or silver. He then took out what money he had, and having refreshed themselves, they proceeded on their journey till night drew on: what shall we do for a lodging quoth the prince, we will do well enough, quoth John, I'll warrant you. My uncle lives about a mile off, who is a huge giant with three heads, and will fight five hundred men in armour and make no more of them than a man would of an oyster.

Away rides John with full speed to the giant with three heads, and coming to the gate, he knocked with such force that he made the valleys

leys echo: the giant with a voice as loud as thunder called out who is there, the other anſwered, no body but your poor couſin John? what news with my couſin John, replies the giant? marry, quoth John, very bad news uncle: the king's ſon is coming with a thouſand men in armour, and he is reſolved to bind you in chains, plunder your caſtle, carry you about in triumph, and then cut off your heads. This

is bad news indeed couſin John, replies the giant, but I have a large vault under ground, where I will hide myſelf, thou ſhalt lock, bolt and bar me in, and keep the keys till the king's ſon has drawn off his army.

Valiant John having ſecured the giant, returns to the prince, and gave him a particular account of what he had done; thereupon they

went

went to the giant's castle, and having refreshed themselves with wine, and whatever else they could find in the castle, then they went to bed very contentedly, and lay in good lodgings while the poor giant lay trembling in the vault under ground. In the morning John furnished the prince with great store of gold and silver, which he took out of the giant's treasury; and having accompanied him six miles on his journey, returned to let the giant out of his confinement: he asked him what recompence he should make him for the care he had taken to preserve his life, and secure his castle from being demolished to the ground, why uncle quoth John, be pleased to give me the coat, cap, sword, and shoes, which are in your chamber. Thou shalt have them quoth the giant and pray keep them for my sake, because they have an excellent virtue in them, the cap will furnish you with knowledge; the sword will cut in sunder whatever you strike; the coat will keep you invisible, and the shoes will make you go so fast, that you may out strip the winds. John accepted the present and then departed.

Having travelled over craggy hills and high mountains for the space of three days and three nights, he came to the side of a wood, near unto which was a large and beautiful plain, and all of a sudden, to his great surprize, he heard many lamentable shrieks, enough to have softened a heart of stone. Looking about, he at last spied a huge and monstrous giant bringing along with him a knight and a fair lady, whom he held up by the hair of the head in his hands with as much ease as if they had been a pair of gloves;

such

such a barbarous treatment moved valiant John to pity and compassion; and alighting from his horse, which he tied fast to a tree, he put on his invisible coat, and under it carried his sword of sharpness, and came up to the giant. He made several passes at him, but he being of an extraordinary height, John could not reach the trunk of his body, but gave him several wounds in his thigh, but at last he gave the giant such a stroke with both hands, that he cut off his legs just below the knees, and when he fell down, caused the ground to shake, and the trees of the wood to tremble; at another blow John cut off the giant's arms, and then put his foot upon his neck, he said, barbarous and inhuman wretch, I am come to execute upon thee the punishment you deserve, which justice says, is due to your villany. I know not where, or what you are, answered the giant, and I must believe thou art some infernal fiend, otherwise you could not be invisible. And as you have already cut off my legs and arms, cut off my head also, and put me out of my misery. All in good time, replied John, but you shall suffer more pain before you depart this life, and then he thrust his sword several times into the giant's body, who at last sending forth a hideous groan, breathed out his last.

When Valiant John had finished his conquest, he pulled off his invisible coat; and then the knight and lady gave him hearty thanks for their deliverance and invited him to their habitation, not only to refresh himself, but to receive an ample reward by way of gratitude, for his having delivered them. But Valiant John

desired

desired to be excused, telling them he could not be at ease, till he had discovered the castle or place where the giant lived. The knight would have dissuaded him from it, by telling him that he would run a very great hazard of his life, for the danger was greater than he apprehended. But Valiant John regarded not that, and being informed that the giant lived but two miles off, he made a vow that he would not rest till he had found him, and then he promised to return after he had killed him, to their habitation, and spend some time with them.

He had not rode very long, but he came in sight of the cave, at the mouth of which he saw the giant's brother sitting on a large block of timber, with a huge knotted bar of iron by him. His goggle eyes appeared like two flames of fire, and he waited for his brother's return with the prey. His cheeks were like two flitches of bacon, the bristles of his beard resembled rods of iron wire, and his locks hung down upon his brawny shoulders like curled snakes, and hissing adders. John putting his horse into a thicket, and his invisible coat upon him, and taking his sword of sharpness in his hand, approached near to the giant, are you there, infamous monster, quoth he, you fancy yourself to be very secure, but I will soon take you by the beard. The giant hearing a voice, looked about, but could not see any body, then valiant John coming up to him struck at his head, but having missed his aim, cut off his nose, whose nostrils were wider than two punch bowls, the pain which the giant felt was intolerable; then putting his hands to feel for his nose, and not finding it, he began

began to rave and roar much louder than a clap of thunder. He lifted up his goggle eyes, rolled them about, and endeavoured, but could not ſee from whence the blow came, by which he had received ſuch great damage: whereupon he took up his knotted bar of iron, and began to lay about him as if he had been a threſher. Is that the way you blow your match, quoth Valiant John; beſhrew thy heart, thou monſter of iniquity, it ſhall go hard with me if I do not give thee a touch of my kindneſs, which you ſhall feel; but upon ſecond thoughts it is beſt to diſpatch thee, leſt a random blow alight upon me.

As the giant aroſe from the block, John came behind him, and, without any more to do, ran his ſword up to the hilt in his fundament; and there he left him for a while, laughing ready to break his heart-ſtrings, to ſee the giant capering and dancing the canaries to the tune of his own bum-fiddle, with the ſword in it. Every now and then, John would, in a waggiſh manner, mightlily praiſe the activity of the giant, and tell him he was wondrous nimble, and that he danced much better than a French maſter. Thus did he make his own game of him for the ſpace of two hours, and then the monſter died: John cut off his heads, and ſent them by a waggoner as a preſent to the king.

He now reſolved to enter the cave to ſearch for the giant's treaſure, and through many windings and turnings, he came, at laſt, to a room paved with marble, in the middle of which was a large table, where the giants uſed to dine, and at the upper end of it he ſaw a wench dreſſing

their meat. He afterwards came to an iron grate, in which was a window secured with iron bars, through which he beheld many captives of both sexes, whom he generously set at liberty, telling them how he had destroyed the two giants, and sent their heads to the king. From these unhappy prisoners, but now happily released, John learned that the giants, upon any rejoicing or feast-day extraordinary, used to chuse the fattest of their captives, which they slaughtered and prepared for their devouring jaws. Then John led them into a great room, and placing them at the table, set before them plenty of provision and good wine; and when they had filled their bellies, John finding great store of gold and silver, divided it among them, and having taken their rest that night, they departed the next morning.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

How Valiant John *was ſumptuouſly entertained at the knight's houſe, whom he had reſcued from the giant; and who preſented him with a fine gold ring—How, in the midſt of their mirth, news was brought of the approach of a giant with two heads, and of the means* John *uſed to deſtroy him in the ſight of all the ladies and gentlemen—How he entered an enchanted caſtle, killed the giant, and ſet a duke's daughter and others at liberty.*

AS ſoon as the ſun began to enliven the earth with its glorious beams, Valiant John mounted his horſe, proceeded on his journey, and by the directions which had been given him, arrived at the knight's houſe, whom he had reſcued from the firſt giant. He was received with all the tokens and demonſtrations of joy imaginable by the knight and his lady; when, in honour to him that under God had delivered them from the hand of the giant, and reſcued them from death, and prepared a great feaſt for him. As this feaſt was to continue many days, they invited their relations, friends, and all the gentry in the adjacent parts of the country; and to them the worthy knight related the danger which he and his lady were in, and their miraculous deliverance on the undaunted courage of Valiant John. Nor was this all they did, for they preſented him with a large gold ring; on which was moſt curiouſly repreſented, and in the beſt workmanſhip, the figure of a giant dragging a knight and his lady by the hair of

their

their heads, with this—

From our distress, which here you see,
By valiant John we were set free.

Among the company who were invited to partake of the diversions and entertainments, were four gentlemen and ladies, who being informed by the lady that Valiant John was the person to whom they owed their deliverance, they went to him, and gave him their humble thanks, acknowledging with the greatest gratitude what he had done, and offered him several presents, which he generously refused. But as the finest summer's day has a cloud which will sometimes hide the sun, and for a while deprive us of the benefit which we receive from its beams, and sink our spirits for a while; so in the midst of all their mirth and flowing bowls, the hearts of all the company, except Valiant John, were much daunted. A messenger came in and brought the dismal tidings, that Cluninstalides, a great and monstrous giant with two heads was coming that way, who having received intelligence of the death of his two kinsmen, the giants of the cave, slain by Valiant John, was come from the other side of Wales in search of him, vowing to have revenge for their miserable downfall. He added that this monstrous giant was within two miles of the knight's house; and that the country people, quitting their houses and habitations, fled before him as chaff before the wind. Valiant John, no way daunted smiled at this relation and said, 'Let him come, I am prepared with a tool to pick

pick his teeth.' Then turning to the company said, "Ladies and gentlemen, walk forth into the garden, and you shall be joyful spectators of the death and destruction of this monstrous giant.' To this they agreed, every one wishing him good fortune in his dangerous enterprize.

Now you must know, before we proceed further, the situation of the knight's house, which was as follows:—It was placed, as it were, in the midst of a small island, being surrounded and encompassed with a mote or ditch, twenty foot over, thirty foot deep, and full of water, over which there was a drawbridge, which Valiant John ordered to be cut on both sides almost to the middle. This being done, he dressed himself in his coat of darkness, put on his shoes of swiftness, and marched towards the giant with his sword of sharpness ready drawn; and though he went up close to the giant, yet he could not see him, but yet he was sensible somebody was near him; which made him break forth in the following words—

'Fee, fau, fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman,

'Be he alive, or be he dead,
'I'll grind his bones to make me bread.'

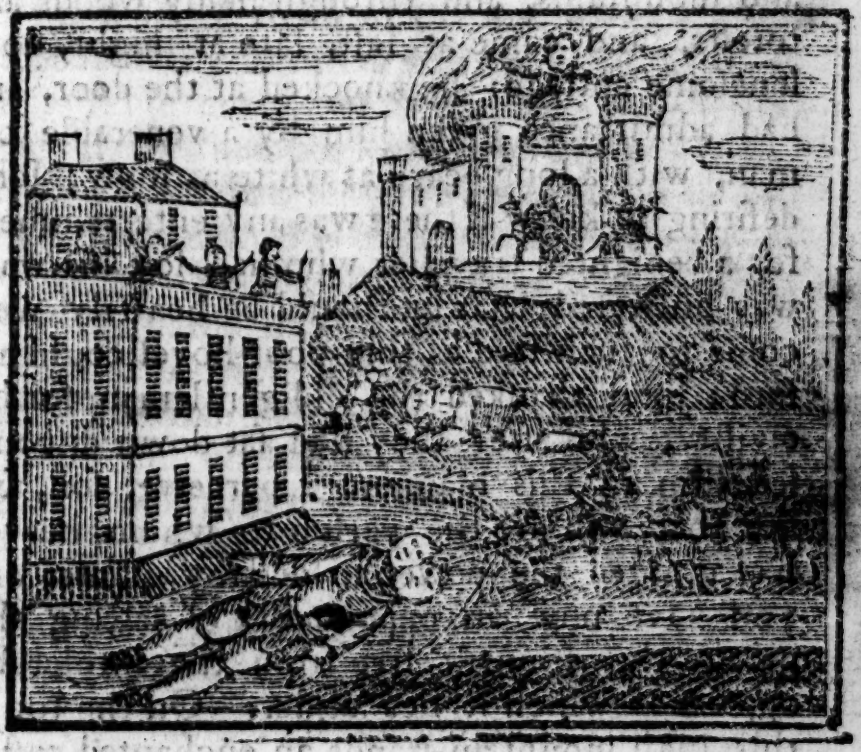
'Ay, do you say so?' quoth Valiant John, 'then you will not allow me one crumb of comfort. But what will you say for yourself, you rascal, if I serve you as I did the other giants? I fancy you will scarce tell any man for the future.'—'How,' says the giant, with a voice like thunder, 'art thou the villain that

has destroyed my two brothers? then I will not only grind thy bones to powder, but I will first tear thee with my teeth, and then suck thy blood.'—'You promise lustily,' quoth John, 'but I hope you will catch me first.'

He then took off his invisible coat, that the giant might see him, and ran from him as though it had been through fear; the giant, with foaming mouth, and glaring eyes, followed him, making the earth shake at every step he took. Valiant John led him a dance five or six times round the mote, that the ladies and gentlemen might have a full view of this great monster in nature: he followed John as fast as he could with all his might, yet he could not overtake him by reason of his shoes of swiftness, which carried him faster than the giant was able to follow. Resolving now to finish the work, John ran over the draw-bridge, and the giant pursued him with his knotty bar of iron upon his shoulder. When he came to the middle of the draw-bridge, what with the weight of his body, and the heavy steps which he took, it broke down, and souse came the giant into the water, where he rolled about and roared like a whale struck with an harping iron. Valiant John standing on the other side of the mote, laughed at the giant till he was ready to burst, and said to him, 'Hark, you giant with two heads, and not one pennyworth of sense in both of them, you are a lusty fellow, but no great performer of your promise; you said you would grind my bones to powder, I am sure you have water enough; therefore I pray you to go and fetch your mill.' The giant

not

not able to bear the taunts and ſcoffs of Valiant John, foamed and roared like a wild boar, and then he plunged about from one ſide to the other, like a porpoiſe, yet could not find his adverſary. John being now willing to diſpatch him, having got a cart rope, and made a nooſe, flung it over the giants two heads, and faſtening the other end to a team of horſes, dragged him



out of the mote half ſtrangled; and before he could recover his ſenſes, he cut off both the giant's heads with his ſword of ſharpneſs, in the open view of all the aſſembly of knights, ladies, gentlemen, and gentlewoman, who gave a joyful ſhout when they ſaw the monſtrous giant was reduced, and for ever uncapable of frightening the country people. They then invited

Valiant John to come in and refresh himself, but he could not be prevailed upon to eat or drink till he had sent the heads to the king; and then he returned to partake of their mirth and pastime.

Valiant John, growing weary of leading such a voluptuous life, took leave of the company, and set forward in hopes of meeting with some new adventures. He travelled over many hills and mountains, and through many woods and forests, and came at last, late at night, to a lonesome cottage: he knocked at the door, and had admittance given him by a venerable old man, with a long beard as white as snow; John desiring to know if there was any entertainment for a benighted traveller who had lost his way, was answered that he should be heartily welcome to such fare as that poor hovel could afford; John thanked the old gentleman for his civility, who after they had sat down discoursed him in this manner: I perceive, son, said he, that you are the person to whom heaven has granted the power to destroy giants; and you have now an opportunity of setting this part of the country free from the intolerable oppression which it lies under. On the top of this high mountain stands an enchanted castle, guarded by a huge and monstrous giant, called Sutiligangag, who by the help of an old conjuror betrays many knights and ladies, and by magick art transforms them into any shapes. But the most to be lamented is the misfortune of a duke's daughter, whom they took in her father's garden, and brought her through the air in a mourning coach, drawn by two fiery dragons,

and

and securing her within the walls of the castle, have changed her into the shape of a white hind. Thus she laments and bewails her hard fate, and though many good and valiant knights have attempted and used their utmost endeavours to break the enchantment, yet not one of them has proved succesful: for the entrance of the castle is guarded by two very frightful griffins, who fixing their eyes upon those that offer to go in, destroy them at the first sight. But I understand my son that you are furnished with an invisible coat, and by the help thereof you may pass by them unperceived, and when you have set your feet within the castle, you will judge what method is to be taken, and what to be pursued to break and dissolve the enchantment. The old man having ended his discourse, received a faithful promise from Valiant John, that in the morning he would venture his life to break the enchantment and set the duke's daughter and the rest of the poor suffering and unhappy prisoners free, who laboured under such hard calamities.

Having refreshed themselves with a small morsel of meat and a few roots, which was the best entertainment his cottage could afford, they both laid themselves down to take their repose. Early in the morning, before the sun began to cast forth its beams, Valiant John got up, and putting on his cap of knowledge, his invisible coat, shoes of swiftness, and taking his sword of sharpness in his hand, he sets forward for the dangerous enterprize.

Having ascended up to the top of the mountain, he soon discovered two fiery griffins, and

going on courageously, passed between them without the least shew of fear or danger, for they could not see him, and consequently not attack him. Having got a good way into the castle, out of the reach of the enchanted griffins that guarded the entrance into it, he cast his eyes round about him, and at last espied a pair of gates, on which hung a golden trumpet by a chain of the finest silver; and then going to take a nearer view of it, he saw the following lines engraved on the gate under the trumpet:

By whom this trumpet shall be blown,
The giants shall be overthrown;
And all the black inchantment broke,
And captives freed from heavy yoke.

Say you so, old good man, tell truth, quoth Valiant John? I by the mass I will have a trial for it: he then read over the inscription again, lest peradventure he might not have remembered some part of it, and thereby rendred his endeavour fruitless and of no effect. He lays hold on the trumpet, and blew a strong breath; hereupon the foundation of the castle trembled, and the giant together with the conjuror were in a horrid confusion, biting their nails, and tearing their hair, knowing that their wicked reign was at an end. Nay if history informs us right the earth shaked so much that the country folks were never in such a condition before. Valiant John having entered the castle, stood unperceived at the giant's side, and as he was stooping to take up his club, John with his sword of sharpness, cut off his head at one blow:

blow: the conjuror seeing what had happened, though he could not tell by whom, mounted immediately into the air, and was carried away in a whirlwind. Thus was the enchantment broke, which had cost so many valiant knights their lives; and every knight and lady that had been transformed into birds and beasts assumed their proper shapes, and the castle vanished, leaving Valiant John and his guests on the top of the mountain, by whom they were conducted to the next town, and handsomely entertained. Having taken leave of each other they departed, except John and the duke's daughter, whom he conducted safe to her father's house, who gave her to him in marriage, and a large portion into the bargain.

CHAP. X.

How the Knight of the Red Cross, *arriving at the court of the King of* Syracuse, *accompanied him to the Island* Sichylan, *governed by the Giant* Norsandal. *A description of his daughter; how the king and the knight fought the giant and his son, and how the knight having killed the father killed also the son, by whom the king was overthrown. How the giantess assaulted the Knight of the* Red Cross, *and what afterwards ensued.*

THE truly great Christian Hero, whom for distinction sake we shall call the Knight of the Red Cross, (for such was the device

vice which he bore upon his shield, with this motto underneath, *Pro Aris & Focis*, that is, For my Religion and Country,) having embarked on board a ship at Plymouth, arrived safe in the kingdom of Syracuse. The king of that place had received a challenge from Norfandal, the Cyclops, King of the Island of Sichylan, and kindly accepted the service, which the Knight of the Red Cross had offered; and having prepared all things for their voyage, they set sail with a very favourable gale of wind, and landed on the Isle of Sichylan, on a Sunday morning. This Norfandal had by treachery stole away the queen and the daughter of the King of Syracuse, whom he kept in close confinement, almost starved to death. I should have taken notice, that just as the Knight of the Red Cross was going on ship board, he received the following letter.

Gandurga the unknown, to the Knight of the Red Cross, greeting.

KNOW that to free another out of prison, thou shalt within a few days enter into the greatest captivity ever poor slave was in, and thy soul and body shall be afflicted, believe me, for what I foretell thee shall come to pass; and let it suffice, that I do know thee better than thou knowest thyself. For the rest follow thy enterprize without delaying it upon any account whatsoever; for it is the will of him, into whose hands thou must one day resign thyself.

This letter made the Knight of the Red Cross exceeding

exceeding thoughtful, and what encreased his melancholy was, that he could not understand any thing in it, but what seemed two grievous to be born; but as there is no avoiding destiny, he was resolved to bear it, as well as he could, and began to look with as pleasant countenance as he could put on.

Being arrived in the Island of Sichylan, they landed at the neareſt port of Norfandal's caſtle, none remaining on board except the mariners: thither the King of Syracuſe went accompanied with the Knight of the Red Croſs, and thirty other knights, being apprehenſive that Norfandal, inſtead of adhearing to the conditions of the combat, would endeavour by ſome treachery to arreſt the king, as he had already trepanned the queen and her daughter Lucinda. Hereupon they marched in very good order to a grove of trees, where they perceived a centinel from the caſtle, who winded a horn ſo loud, that they could hear it; ſoon after this came towards them with great ſpeed a damſel, who addreſſing herſelf to the king, whom ſhe took to be the chief by his rich armour, ſaid my lord Norfandal, the Cyclops, ſends me to know, who you are, that have entered ſo familiarly into his land without any leave or permiſſion? Damſel, anſwered the king, tell him if he will fulfil his promiſe made to the King of Syracuſe, whoſe wife and daughter he wrongfully detains, he ſhall find him and other knights ready to fight him and his ſon, but as his word is not to be taken, he muſt ſend us an hoſtage, before we enter the field one againſt another, or elſe we ſhall conſider what we have to do. You come

ſoon

soon enough to seek your own misfortunes, re
plied the damsel, which will assuredly befa
you. The hostage being come, which wa
Norfandal's only daughter, they who conducte
her told the king, that he must keep none with
him but the knight, who was to be his compa
nion; for there was nobody in the castle, whom
he need to fear, but Norfandal and his son
which the king promised to perform. To giv
you the true picture of the hostage, and to se
forth her beauty in the most lively colours, you
must know that she was a giantess, who ha
but one eye, which was placed in the middle o
her forehead, her nose resembled the trunk o
an elephant, and her cheeks like two large ox
bladders; her breasts were larger than a pai
of cows udders, and all the other parts were
proportionable. The train of her gown was
ten yards long covered with scales of fish; and
on her head (which was as big as a drum) was
a veil, powdered with snail shells. She did
not regard the king, though he spoke civilly
to her, but addressing herself to the Knight of
the Red Cross, she said are you he who are to
fight with the king against my father and bro-
ther? Yes, madam, replied the knight, but
why do you ask? because, says she, I think my
women much fitter for such dances than you,
and that a lady's hood would become you
much better than that helmet which covers
your head.

Though the Knight of the Red Cross per-
ceived that she jeered him, yet he only laughed
at it, saying in good faith madam, if all the
beauties in this country resemble you, it can

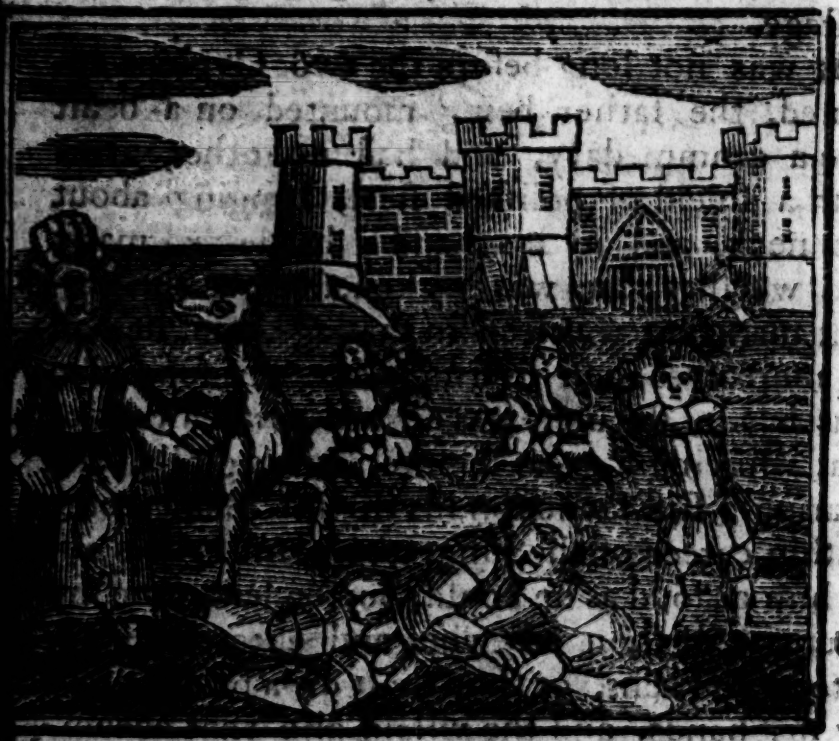
never

never be thought that I came hither to make love, and much less that you and I are one man's children.

While they were thus discoursing they saw the giant and his son come forth, whereupon the king commanded his knights to retire, and to take with them the young gianteſs for a hoſtage.

It was not long before the two Cyclops appeared, the father being mounted on a beaſt like a drommedary, and had no other arms than a ſhield of poliſhed ſteel, hanging about his neck, and in his hand a battle-ax, maſſy and weighty; he was reckoned to be the biggeſt man that was ſeen in that age, and he had no more eyes than his daughter. His ſon, who was leſs in ſtature, was armed with a coat of mail, having a great ſcimiter at his girdle, and bearing a ſtiff launce on his thigh. Being come within career of the king, the giant called out to him as loud as he could, Surrender to me my country, if thou art wiſe, and enter willingly into my priſons; or thou ſhalt die a pitiful death by my hands, and the villain alſo that accompanies thee. The Knight of the Red Croſs intreated the king to let him diſpute the matter with the giant, Norfandal, while his majeſty engaged the ſon; this being granted, he ran againſt the giant with ſuch force, that he nailed his ſhield and thigh together, and the giant thought as he paſſed to be even with him, and ſeperate him in two, but the knight avoided the blow. Their bodies met with ſuch force, that Norfandal, by reaſon of the ſhock, and the wound he had received, could not keep his ſaddle;

saddle, and this was the case also of the Knight of the Red Cross, for the girts and stirrups of his saddle breaking, he was carried over the crupper of his horse, though without receiving any damage: not being satisfied with what had passed, the knight getting up in a rage drew his



sword and came up to Norfandal, who not being able to stand, sat on the ground, but gave the knight such a stroke, that if he had not supported himself by clapping down his hand, he had fallen flat on the ground; but before the giant could recover his battle-ax, the Knight of the Red Cross cleft his head in sunder, he having no head-piece, or cap to save it.

His son (who had not yet stirred, nor the king, the better to behold the combat of the two others) seeing this was so inflamed with

rage

rage and anger, that he ran with full speed againſt the King of Syracuſe, and gave him ſo great a blow with his launce, that wounding him ſeverely in the breaſt, he threw him to the ground. The Knight of the Red Croſs, fearing that the king was dead, reſolved to be revenged on the young Cyclops, who hoped however to bring the knight to reaſon, and to this end couching his ſpear, he ſet ſpurs to his horſe, and thought to have trampled him down, but the knight being nimble and quick, turned aſide, and in his turning gave the other's horſe ſuch a blow, that he hamſtrung him, by which the young Cyclops was forced to alight, and fight on foot. The knight, in the mean time, had ſeized on Norfandal's battle-axe, and approached the other, who thought with one blow of his ſcimiter to have hewed him down; and he would certainly have done it, but by good fortune it turned in his hand, and the force of the blow forced it from him. The Knight of the Red Croſs was more ſucceſful, for he gave the Cyclops ſuch a home ſtroke with the battle-axe, that lighting on his right ſhoulder, he cleaved him down, ſo that his ſoul parted from his body.

The conquering knight came to the king, who was in a ſwoon, but taking off his helmet, and giving him air, he ſoon recovered his ſenſes.

It happened that the queen and princeſs, looked out of a window to behold the combat, and believing the king to be worſe, than he really was, wept and bewailed ſo loud, that the king heard them; and therefore to give them ſome comfort, he got up, and pretended he felt little

or no pain, and that the hurt he received was ſmall. The gianteſs, wife of Norfandal, ſeeing her huſband ſlain, and by whom, came privately out of the caſtle, full of rage and deſpair, and going ſecretly behind the Knight of the Red Croſs, thought to beat out his brains, and in truth the blow was ſuch that it made fire fly out of his eyes. However he would not ſtrike her with his ſword, but taking a piece of a broken launce, he lent her ſuch a blow, that ſhe began to ſtagger, as if ſhe were giving up the ghoſt; he then left her, and returned to the king, who embracing him, ſaid,—"Bleſſed be the day on which you were born, for my life has not only been preſerved by you this day, but I have alſo recovered by your means what I prize moſt of any thing in this world." Sir, replied the knight, give thanks to heaven, which has maintained your right; as for me I have not done any thing but what I was obliged to by my profeſſion, my honour, and the laws of knight-hood; but does it not pleaſe you that we go to the queen, and my lady your daughter, whom I ſee at the window of the tower? I believe they expect your majeſty with impatience and deſire. Let us go then, replied the king.

Hereupon they walked towards the caſtle, and when he came pretty nigh, the Queen of Syracuſe called out and told them, that the gianteſs had got the keys of the tower in which they remained priſoners, and except they took them from her, they could not get admittance. Upon this the king ſent his page to bring them, and while he was gone, they entered into the outer court; ſcarce were they got there, when

they

they heard a voice calling out for help, and turning about they saw the page running with full speed from the giantess, who pursued him with a piece of a broken launce in her hand. They apprehending that the page might receive some damage from her, stept forward to save him, and thereupon the giantess turned back, crossed the fields, and carried the keys with her. And the better to secure herself, she went so far into the lake, which was on one side of the place, that the Knight of the Red Cross could not come near her; but cursing her to the pit of hell, and believing her to be a witch, he returned to the king, who had sent the page to the harbour, to order ten knights to come to him, and compel the giantess to do that by force, which she would not do by reason. As soon as they understood what was the issue of the fight, that the giant and his son were slain, and the king and the Knight of the Red Cross safe, and in possession of the castle, they were filled with unspeakable joy. They made what haste they could to get on shore, and then went to the castle; but the giantess, before their arrival, having seen the king and the knight go into the inner court, and the queen withdrew from the window, came out of the lake, and ran through the outer court into the hall; from hence she took a strong bow and a quiver full of arrows, and turning back, took also her husband's shield, and her son's scimiter, being thus armed she got back to the lake without being perceived by the king or any other person; for they were searching the chambers where they found two men weeping, whom

they commanded to shew them the door of the tower.

Trembling through excess of fear, they led them to an iron door, fastened with a great padlock, and told them there was another, more strongly secured, and that it was impossible to get in, except they could get the keys, which the giantess had.

Having received this intelligence, they were very much disheartned, and finding that all their endeavours would signify nothing, the Knight of the Red Cross addressed himself to the king, telling him, that as he was greatly wounded, he was of opinion that he ought to repose himself, and therefore desired him to throw off his armour and lye down on the bed, and permit him to bind up his wounds; adding that sleep would prove a great balsam to him, and in the mean time he would consult of some proper means or expedient to set the queen and the fair princess at liberty. It is very probable that the king would have complied with the request of the Knight of the Red Cross, had he not unfortunately made mention of the queen and the princess, for he was very faint and weak occasioned by the quantity of blood which he had lost since he had been wounded. But now the thoughts of his queen and daughter, ran so much in his head, that he could not think of any thing else: would you, says he, to have me disarm myself, and go to sleep, when they remain in captivity, whom we came here to release, nay who knows but they are almost starved, and would be glad of a dry crust of bread, and no body can tell how to convey it

to

to them? my queen and my daughter! what have I done that heaven should shower down its vengence thus upon me? or, if I have at any time been guilty of an enormous crime, why should they suffer so severely, who are innocent? but do with me as you please.

Having exhausted his spirits in such expostulations, they took off his armour, and then the Knight of the Red Cross having bound up his wound, laid him on a bed to sleep.

CHAP. XI.

How the giantess, wife of Norfandal, *the* Cyclops, *was encountered by ten knights, some of whom she killed and put the rest to flight. How at midnight she carried the Queen of* Syracuse *and her daughter* Lucinda *to the lake, but being pursued by the Knight of the* Red Cross, *was killed by him. How he and the princess fell in love with one another.*

THE Knight of the Red Cross perceiving the king to sleep, went out of the castle to meet the knights, whom the page was sent to call; he saw them at the lake, pursuing the giantess, who infested them so grievously with her arrows, that one of them being killed, the rest through rage and vexation entered so far into the lake, that they could scarce get out again. The giantess perceiving this, let fly her arrows so thick and fast, that one of them piercing the head of a knight's horse, he sunk in

in the water, and carried his rider with him; which struck such a terror into the other knights that they shamefully drew back. The queen and the princess were standing at the window of the tower, beholding what passed, when the giantess in a rage and fury, let fly an arrow at them, but it struck against one of the bars of the window, without doing any damage, and fell down at the foot of the Knight of the Red Cross, who stood underneath. Irritated at the scandalous behaviour of the knights, who left the giantess in peace, the Knight of the Red Cross reproached and upbraided them in such a moving manner, that he forced them to return to the assault; the giantess seeing this, knew that she should have enough to do to defend herself, and resolving to die rather than fall into their hands, she let fly a whole quiver of arrows, and wounding two of the stoutest knights, went so far into the lake that it was impossible for the rest to follow her, unless they swam.

This however was attempted by one more adventerous than the rest, and coming up to her, she raised herself on tip toe, and gave his horse such a violent blow with her scimiter between his ears, that the rider and he sunk to the bottom, and were never seen more. The Knight of the Red Cross, now knew that he could not have her except it were by artifice; and commanding the surviving knights to retreat, he hoped to obtain by fair words what he could not by force of arms, and therefore he spake to her in this manner.

"*Lady, give me the keys of the tower, and I promise*

promise you upon the faith of a Christian, and the honour of a gentleman, that no violence shall be offered to you; neither shall your liberty be infringed; but if you refuse to comply upon such reasonable conditions, then shall your daughter's head make atonement for your folly and obstinacy.

But she regarded not his threats or promises, whereupon he returned with the knights to the castle, to consult the king about some proper Expedient.

About midnight the king awaked, and as he

ruminated on the sufferings of his queen and daughter, who were confined without food, he heard the voice of one in distress, calling for assistance; then starting up suddenly, he said to the Knight of the Red Cross, 'As I live, my dear friend, I amgreatly mistaken if violence

be

be not offered to the queen, whom I heard even now calling for help.' At this the knight rose up quickly, and taking his sword in one hand and a flambeau in the other, went towards the tower, and in the way met the giantess, who carried the queen and the princess under her arms, and ran with all speed towards the lake. And though her burden was so heavy, yet she made such haste that the Knight of the Red Cross could not come up with her, till she had got knee-deep in the water; then giving her one blow with his sword, she let the queen and princess fall into the lake and died immediately. In the mean time came the other knights, whom the king had awaked, just in the very nick of time; for the Knight of the Red Cross was hard put to it to save the mother and daughter. While the others took up the queen, and brought her to shore, the knight brought the princess safe to land. Her excellent beauty gained such power over him, that he found himself seized with something near to him, for he had never experienced the force of Cupid. However the God of Love was so favourable to him, that he inclined the heart of the princess to a reciprocal affection, making her no less desirous than desired. However both the one and the other with great prudence concealed their passion, and the Knight of the Red Cross had set her safe on the land, with great reverence and obeisance he asked how she did? Alas! Sir says she, my heart beats so violently, that I know not whether I am dead or living; for heaven's sake conduct me to the king, my father, but first tell me whether he be much wounded, for

when

when I saw him yesterday, I doubted much of his safety. Madam, answered the Knight of the Red Cross, the king is certainly wounded, but not so grievously as you imagine, and the joy he will receive by your presence, will make him forget the greatest part of his pain. The queen coming up to them broke off their discourse; then they went to the castle, and coming into the room where the king lay, the sight of his queen and daughter struck him with such a sudden surprize, that he remained speechless; however he stretched forth his hands, and received them both very affectionately. As soon as he had recovered his speech, he cried out, blessed be thy holy name O king of Kings, since it has pleased thee to let me behold this day, the two persons who are dearer to me than my life. He said O Knight of the Red Cross, How is it possible that I ever shall be able to make a sufficient acknowledgement of the benefit I received this day by your means? The Knight finding that the king was going to make a long speech, and remembering that the queen and princess had not eat any thing for the space of two days, interrupted him, saying, sir, your present joy and satisfaction makes you forget the long time these ladies have been without food, will it not please you sir, that some victuals be brought hither? with all my heart, replied the king. The tables were soon covered, and after they had eat plentifully, they spent some time in giving an account of the behaviour and death of the giantess, and then they retired to take their rest.

But alas! the Knight of the Red Cross could not

not close his eyes; he was taken up with contemplating the beauty of his new mistress, the princess, which flung him into such profound thought, that he even forgot himself. At last calling to mind the letter which was delivered to him from Gandurga, he said—O wise prophet! I now well perceive, that what you mentioned in your letter, is fulfilled, by delivering a beautiful princess from prison, I am made her captive and slave; so that I have nothing in me free, all is subject to her. Knight of the Red Cross, your eyes have placed the ladder of love so high, that you ought rather to expect a fall, than to climb up. How darest thou, who knowest not from whence thou art descended, consume thy thoughts in vainer things than can be imagined? learn to command thyself, and think no more of ambitious love. Then on a sudden, changing his opinion, said, perhaps I am descended of such a lineage, that I ought not to have such a mean conceit of myself, and my heart taking so high a flight is an argument, to make me believe my father was of a noble blood. But, alas! my folly is too apparent, for if I was the son of the greatest prince on earth, yet I must confess myself unworthy to serve such a lady.

Such like discourse did the Knight of the Red Cross spend the night, so that he could not take one wink of sleep till break of day; then he slumbered a little, but was soon disturbed by one, who came to tell him the ladies were ready. He then arose, and coming into the king's chamber, where the ladies were, he saluted them in the most humble manner, and enquired

enquired after the king's health. I am so well says he, that I resolve without any further delay to return to my ship, where I hope to find a speedier cure, than here where I received my wounds. As soon as they had dined, they went on ship-board, and setting sail with a favourable wind, carried the young Cyclops, who was the hostage, with them; and the princess Lucinda did all that lay in her power to comfort her, for the loss of her father and mother, for till then she had not heard one word of what had passed.

During the voyage, the Knight of the Red Cross was never easy but when he was in presence of the princess, nor had she any entire satisfaction but in the enjoyment of his company, and as her thoughts were constantly employed in thinking, so did he night and day meditate on her perfections. But though they carried about them the remedy proper for their entire cure, yet they concealed it for a while: and not doubting but they were perfectly happy, we must now take our leave of them, wishing them a prosperous voyage, and all felicity.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

How the King, Queen, and Princess of Tenedos *were cast away together with the Knight of* Jerusalem; *how the knight fought five giants and one knight, whom he killed, and got possession of the* Castle *of* Treasure; *how the king and he set at liberty three king's, three queen's, and four princesses, who were inchanted there, and delivered several knights.*

THE Knight of Jerusalem, after many adventures, arrived at the court of the King of Tenedos, and after he had been there some time, the king, the queen, and the young princess, resolved to recreate themselves on the sea one summer's evening accompanied with the knight. They carried their swords, shields and horses, with them, lest if they went on shore, and met with any adventure they might be prepared. They discovered about sun-set a little Island near them, which seemed to be pleasantly planted with trees, and to be well watered with little rivers. The king therefore ordered his yatch to steer thither, commanding the other ships to ride at anchor. They had not sailed long before they were driven by the wind near a high rock, on the top of which were a old man and woman, grasping each other by the collar, and wrestling with so much agility, that they tript up each others heels, and fell into the sea, and presently the rock sunk. This occasioned such an emotion of the sea, that the waves had well nigh carried the yacht to the bottom; and the storm encreasing they bulged

bulged upon a ſand next morning, but were miraculouſly ſaved, they came on ſhore at the foot of an hill, and though they knew not the country, or ſaw any path, yet they thought themſelves much better among ſhrubs and briars, than to be expoſed to the rage and tempeſt of

a mecrcileſs ſea. At laſt finding a path that was a little beaten and frequented, the Knight of Jeruſalem told the king, that in his opinion it would be beſt to go up and ſee if they could diſcover any houſe or cottage where they might have ſhelter. To this they agreed, and when they came to the top of the hill, they diſcovered ſome buildings, and riding forwards could plainly perceive the battlements of a fortreſs, but before they could come near it, they ſaw at ſome diſtance two great marble pillars, from

whence they was carried on to a fair tower, a walk, and thence to another about a bow-ſhot off, where were likewiſe two pillars, and ſo to four more about the ſame diſtance from the laſt, and then to the caſtle, which compleated the number of ſeven. But they ſaw not man or woman, which made them believe the place was uninhabited. They proceeded till they came to a high pillar of chryſtal, on the top of which was a large gilt ſtatue repreſenting the perſon of a queen holding in her left hand a roll, which reached to the bottom, whereon certain characters were engraved, which the Knight of Jeruſalem interpreted thus—

Firzea, the Magician, ſiſter to the great Soldan of Babylon, queen and lady of this Iſle of Garenes, and of all thoſe who either are here, or ſhall come here, whether of the Pagan religion, or of the new law of chriſt, maketh known, That we have by our art and induſtry built this palace, called the caſtle of treaſure, which ſhall be defended by ſeven guards appointed thereunto, till ſuch time as the fair one ſhall ſeize on the cruel ſword, to defend and ſecure herſelf againſt the dreadful lion, by whoſe roarings her doubtful and paſſionate heart ſhall recover new force, driving away all feminine weakneſſes; then and no ſooner ſhall theſe enchantments end which we have eſtabliſhed.

Sir, ſays the Knight of Jeruſalem to the king, night draws on, and in my humble judgement it is better not to paſs farther till to morrow, when we will enter the caſtle if we can. This advice was very agreeable, and unbridling their horſes to let them feed, they ſat down

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at the foot of the pillar; but they had not been here long when they ſaw a gentleman riding towards them with a falcon on his wriſt, who told them that if they were perceived by any of the caſtle, they could not avoid being put into the moſt dreadful priſon that was ever entered into. The Knight of Jeruſalem deſiring to know the reaſon of ſuch a cuſtom, was anſwered thus—

This is the Iſle of Garenes, and this effigy repreſenting Firzea, the lady of it, who is abſent, but nobody knows where, ſhe has left a daughter here, the moſt beautiful in the world, and with her ſeveral of the beſt knights in Aſia, of whom ſeven of them are giants, and each of theſe ſeven keeps one of the towers, with expreſs command from the queen, that no knight ſhall arrive in the country, but he muſt be either killed or taken. I am come to acquaint them that the queen's daughter, who has been hunting, will be here in two days, but I ſhall not make any mention of you, for I would rather preſerve you than occaſion any damage to you.

This news greatly terrified them all except the Knight of Jeruſalem, who told the king, that ſince there was but one guard in each tower, they ought to try their fortune, hoping by the help of heaven they ſhould defeat the champions, and command the place in due time. But ſhould it not prove ſo, ſaid he, as we have neither ſhip nor boat whereby we can provide for our ſafety, it is much better to die ſpeedily, than to ſuffer a lingering death.

As ſoon as the day appeared, they all mount-

ed on horſeback, (for the ladies could not be prevailed upon to ſtay behind) and the knights making themſelves ready for the combat, marched on the firſt tower. But the Knight of Jeruſalem had ſuch a tender regard or concern for the preſervation of the king, that as they were to fight the guards, he begged him not to engage while he himſelf had ſtrength to reſiſt them, to which the king conſented.

Whilſt they were in diſcourſe, they came to a deep river, over which was a bridge of wood, which was the paſſage into the firſt tower: preſently a horn did ſound, and then came forth a knight of immenſe ſize and ſtature, who calling out to the Knight of Jeruſalem, ſaid ſir knight quit your arms and come without conſtraint into my priſon, or elſe you and your companion ſhall loſe your heads: The knight made no anſwer to theſe threats, but ſetting ſpurs to their horſes, they met with ſuch violence on the bridge, that the Knight of the Tower, and his horſe were tumbled into the river, and were drowned, and the Knight of Jeruſalem marching on, the watch, who ſounded the horn, made a great cry, and went off.

Then the king and the ladies paſſed the tower together, and preſently another horn ſounded from the next fortreſs, when the next guard, a giant, came forth, and when they were within a career of one another, he ſummoned the knight to come and ſuffer perpetual impriſonment. But having got the king's launce, he truſted to that, and anſwered, by my head, he that thinks to revenge another's diſgrace, very often draws the like upon himſelf. Hereupon they

they ſpurred againſt each other, and the knight taking good aim, pierced the guard quite through the body.

The third watch ſounding as the former, out came a great giant in ſtrong armour, with two ſteel maces on his ſhoulder, and preſenting them to the knight, told him that according to the cuſtom of the tower, he might chuſe one, for the combat was to be performed that way. The Knight of Jeruſalem took his choice, and then they aſſaulted each other with ſuch fury, that they both fell down as dead. But the knight recovering himſelf, run upon the giant, whom he thought he had only ſtunned, but his two eyes were ſtarted out of his head, and the breath out of his body. Then the king brought the knight his horſe, and the ladies aſking him how he did? he anſwered that if nothing worſe was to befal him, he ſhould not be prevented from paſſing on, and then they paſſed the third tower.

The fourth watch having ſounded his horn, a knight of wonderful ſtature, having a head and face like an Engliſh maſtiff, preſented himſelf. He had a coat of mail, a ſtrong ſhield, a ſcimiter by his ſide, a bow in his hand, and a quiver of arrows at his back; and becauſe he came from the Iſle of Dogs, where all the inhabitants have dogs faces, he was named Cynocephalus. Being on foot, he let fly an arrow, which piercing the forehead of the knight's horſe, killed him: then he wounded the knight with another in the thigh, but covering himſelf with his ſhield, he came to engage ſo cloſe that the

pieces of their armour fell thick on the ground. Then making an offer, as though he designed to strike Cynocephalus on the head, he laid hold on his shield, and pulled with such force, that he flung him to the ground: but getting up suddenly made a stroke at the knight with his scimiter, who stepping aside, avoided him, and as he turned, gave the dog's face such a thrust in the throat, that he cut his wind-pipe. The king and the ladies advancing, doubted the knight was more wounded than he had really been, and the princess bound up the wound he had received.

The blood was soon stopt, and then the guard of the fifth tower presented himself, who was a giant with a fierce countenance, and would have the combat to be with axes; and brought for that purpose two upon his shoulder; he gave choice to the knight, by whom he was in a short time slain.

The fifth tower being conquered, there came a handsome young knight out of the sixth, about thirty years of age, and would needs fight at sword and cloak. But before he began, he complimented and much praised the Knight of Jerusalem for his great skill and promises, and told him that no man had ever got by fortune that tower. The knight in return, answered that the death of the young gentleman's companions was not so much through his fault, as to the perverse custom of the place, and said if he would surrender it, he would lay an obligation upon him. But the other replied, he wished he could comply; but having pledged his word and faith to defend it, he would chuse

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to die with honour, rather than live with disgrace. Hereupon the knight threw off his armour, and the combat between them was the most gallant that ever was seen, both being expert masters of the sword, young and active, and after many passes on both sides, the knight of the tower was wounded in the right arm, and not being able to hold his sword, said sir knight since success waits your command, pass on and follow your fortune.

The watch of the next tower instead of winding his horn, cried out soldiers come forth or we are all lost; then presently sallies out six knights in armour, and four servants, and all assailed the knight of Jerusalem. The king seeing this came to his assistance, and the four servants seizing on the queen and princess, carried them away prisoners, they raised such indignation in the two christian knights, that they presently slew four of the other knights, and the two that survived, running away, were pursued and suffered with their companions. Then they passed to the seventh tower, near which they met the four villains, who had carried off the ladies; they presently killed two of them, and received the others into mercy, on promise that they would discover the queen and princess. As they entered the castle, and no guard appeared, the Knight of Jerusalem enquired where he was? to whom one of the fellows answered, that the infanta, their princess, who loved him dearly, had taken him with her as a guard when she hunted.

When they came into the hall, they found the queen, the princess, and the rest bound with

cords, whom they preſently ſet at liberty, and a ſupper was prepared for them. When it was time to betake themſelves to reſt, the queen and the princeſs retired into a chamber, where were two red beds, and the curtains made of gold and ſilk: but the king and the Knight of Jeruſalem lay down in their armour to prevent a ſurprize.

The knight could take no reſt, and ſeeing a brightneſs come from the ſtair-caſe, he imagined there was ſome treaſon, and taking his ſword in his hand went thither, and entering a chamber, was run through the body by a damſel. She then began to make great lamentation, which reaching the ears of the princeſs, and ſhe not finding the Knight of Jeruſalem, went into the room, but was ſeized by a lion; and having preſence of mind ſhe plucked the ſword out of the knight's body, and killed the lion. Thereupon the knight who ſeemed to have been wounded roſe up well and luſty, and the princeſs and the damſel lay ſtretched out on the ground, not ſtirring hand or foot, but upon the approach of the knight, their ſpirits returned, and they came again to themſelves. The king and queen miſſing their daughter, entered the chamber, and preſently a burning door flew open, which made ſuch a noiſe, that the inhabitants ten miles round, believed the ruin of the caſtle, if not of the Iſland to be at hand. Then they ſaw in another chamber ſeveral great peſonages, as three kings, three queens, with crowns upon their heads, four princeſſes, who had been enchanted there, but were now ſet at liberty, as were alſo ſeveral knights and ladies

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that had been confined in another part of the caſtle, for which they all unanimouſly gave thanks to the King of Tenedos, and to the Knight of Jeruſalem.

CHAP. XIII.

How Sir Allan, *and his father and mother were ſurpriſed by the Giant* Danagelſe, *who promiſed to fight with him when he ſhould receive knighthood: How he was caſt away on the* Unknown Iſland, *where he fought with and killed the Giant* Frandello, *and being afterwards attacked by ſix knights, he killed four of them. How the queen invited him to her fine palace, and how they fell in love with each other.*

AS Allan, a young gentleman about eighteen years of age, and his father and mother were recreating themſelves on the ſea ſhore in the Iſland of Sicily, Danagelſe, a monſtrous giant with an ape's face, and lord of Ape's Iſland, ſailing along the ſhore, armed and equipt like a pirate, landed to refreſh himſelf, he ſoon eſpied the Sicilians, whom he ſurprized and carried away priſoners, for they had not arms, or time to provide any, or to retire into the caſtle, of which that giant made himſelf maſter by ſurprize: Allan, young and full of courage, reflecting on the misfortune and captivity of his father and mother, was ready to burſt with paſſion, and though he had not yet received the order of knighthood, he could not forbear

bear ſaying to Danagelſe, 'As God ſhall ſave me, if the right you have uſurped in this country, were to be determined by combat between you and me, I ſhould not queſtion but to make you know, that you have cowardly and unjuſtly entered into it, and would ſend your head to the King of Naples, whoſe vaſſals we are, and whom you affront by treating us in this manner.

Danagelſe, Lord of Ape's Iſland, was very much nettled and diſpleaſed at this ſpeech, which put him into ſuch a rage, that he commanded Allan's father and mother to be ſtript and whipt with a cat-of-nine tails, in the preſence of their ſon, to whom he ſaid, Hearken, Allan, I give you your liberty to go where you pleaſe, and receive knighthood, ſwearing by the great God Jupiter, that I will ſtay for thee, and fight with thee as ſoon as thou ſhalt return. And that you may have the more reaſon to make haſte, I ſwear by the God Mars that there ſhall not one day paſs but thy father and mother, whom thou haſt ſeen ſo well ſcourged, ſhall be yet more ſeverely handled in ſpite of thee, and the King of Naples, that he all others may know I can chaſtiſe ſuch fools as do not believe in my gods.

He then ordered a barge to be got ready, into which Allan entered, very glad of the means he had to proſecute his revenge; but no leſs diſcontented for the torture in which he left his father and mother and what they muſt ſpeedily undergo. To put an end to their ſufferings as ſoon as he might, he ſailed to Naples, and acquainted the king with all that had paſſed,

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he was much troubled at it, and ſaid, by the help of God I will provide a remedy for it. Thereupon at the requeſt of Allan, the king knighted him, though not in white harneſs, as the cuſtom was, but in black armour, with a ſhield, on which was a red caſtle in a golden field; and by this was ſignified the loſs of his country, and the impriſonment of his parents. Sir Allan, for ſo we muſt now call him, having obtained his requeſt, embarked again for Sicily, hoping in a little time to ſee and fight this enemy, Danagelſe; but it fell quite otherwiſe, for on the ſecond day a furious tempeſt aroſe, that continued many days, and was ſo toſſed about, that Sir Allan expected that he and the veſſel ſhould ſink together.

At laſt they were caſt on an unknown iſland, and coming on ſhore, Sir Allan took horſe, and riding along, diſcovered a caſtle near which was a beautiful lady, guarded by a huge giant, who called out to the knight to ſurrender himſelf, and come into his priſons according to the cuſtom. But Sir Allan young and unexperienced as he was, regarded not what he ſaid, but making himſelf ready for the combat, they aſſaulted each other in the moſt furious manner, and having broken their launces, they inſtantly alighted, and fought on foot; neither of the two could gain any advantage over the other, and they behaved themſelves, ſo bravely for the ſpace of two hours, that it was a difficult matter to know which of them merited the greateſt applauſe, but both growing weary they were forced to reſt themſelves a little and take breath. The Giant Frandello, ſeeing

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that the fair queen of the unknown iſland was full of trouble, her countenance pale and wan, through great perplexity ſhe was in, charged his enemy with ſuch wonderful fierceneſs. Sir Allan, was not behind hand with him, for their animoſity encreaſing, the graſs on which they ſtood was changed from a green to a red colour, and each of them burnt ſo vehemently with revenge, that they ſeized one another by the arms, ſtriving to gain that by ſtrength of body what they could not obtain by their ſwords. Nevertheleſs neither of them had any advantage herein; but after long ſtruggling and uſing all imaginable induſtry, they returned to their ſwords; with theſe they laid ſo deſperately about them, that they had ſcarce any armour left, with whom they might have any way to defend themſelves, and their fleſh being bare, the blood ſtreamed down on all ſides. The queen not able to bear any longer the danger her friend was in, began to wring her hands, and croſs her arms like a woman in deſpair. The giant ſeeing this took freſh courage, and thinking to cleave his enemy's head, took his ſword in both hands, and lifting it up, to which Sir Allan oppoſed his ſhield, he gave him ſuch a blow that ſplitting his ſhield in two, the point fell with ſuch force on his helmet, that his eyes ſparkled and he ſtaggered. Nevertheleſs the knight ſoon recovered himſelf, and flew with ſuch fury at him, that ſeizing the ſtraps of his ſhield, he pulled it with ſuch violence to him, that he got poſſeſſion of it, and threw it behind him in a great rage. The Giant Frandello began to manifeſt ſome fear; for he knew not with what to cover himſelf, nor how he could

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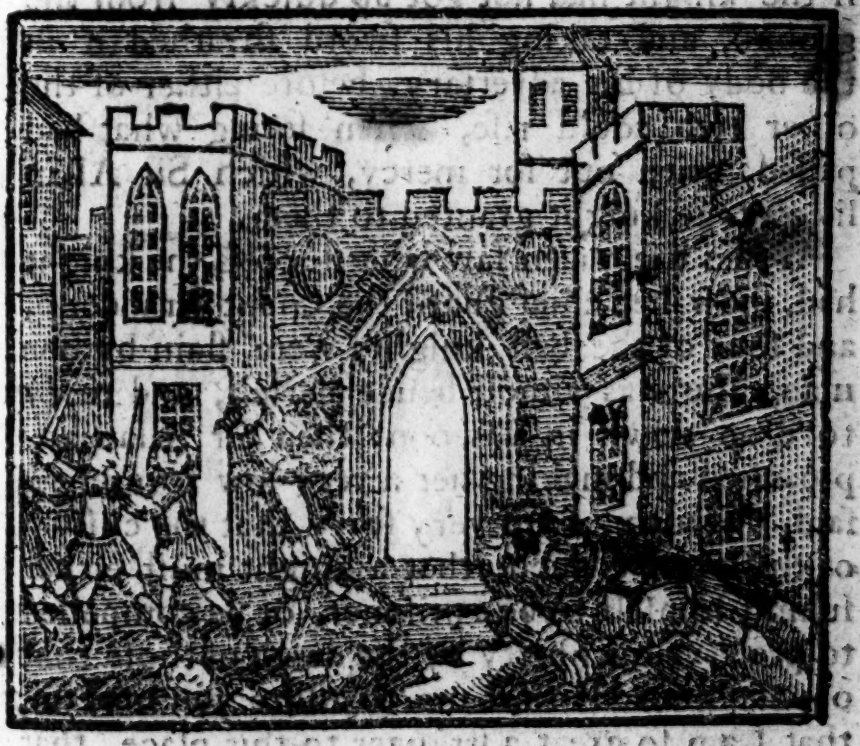
any longer reſiſt his adverſary, by whom he was preſſed ſo very cloſe, that fortune forſaking him, the victory was obtained by Sir Allan, who thruſt his ſword up to the hilt in the giant's body.

No ſooner did the queen behold the death of Frandello, but ſhe ſet up ſuch a hideous roar, that their ſtrait iſſued out of the caſtle ſix men, who fiercely aſſaulted Sir Allan; but having mounted his ſturdy horſe he behaved himſelf ſo valiantly, and like a gallant man, that he had quickly ſlain two of the ſtouteſt of them. The four that remained alive, vexed at the loſs of their companions, and that they could not



overcome one ſingle man, attacked the knight with ſuch fury, that it was greatly to be wondered how he could defend himſelf. Nevertheleſs

less he shewed them such play, laying about now with the right hand, and then with the left, and his blows coming thick and home, that he soon sent a third to share the same fate with the two others. Being now more outrageous than before, the other three ran in upon him, and by the strength of their arms, threw him out of his saddle upon the grass, though he made all the opposition possible; but he brought two of them to the ground with him, and held them so close that they could not do him any damage. The last seeing this alighted hastily from his horse to relieve his companions and kill Sir Allan; and this he had certainly done if the knight had not got up quickly from the ground, and taking his sword sheathed it in the body of his adversary, before either of the other two could rise, when seeing what had passed, cried out for mercy, which Sir Allan like a true knight granted to them.

When the queen saw what success the knight had, how her chief guard the Giant Frandello, and four of the best knights were slain by one man, she was almost beside herself, and ready to drop down in a swoon: then Sir Allan approached and making her a very low reverence, said, 'Madam, I am very sorry that the custom of this place is such, that a knight must either submit himself to be a prisoner, or be compelled to preserve his liberty by the death of those that oppose him. Permit me to assure you madam, that I am so great a stranger to this place, that I know not the name of it, and was this morning cast away upon your coast.' The queen seeing him so fair, humble, and well behaved, answered

answered him thus: Sir Knight, the custom of this place, which is called the Unknown Island, differs very little from any other; and though I must own that I am much disturbed at the death of those in whom I principally trusted, yet it is some comfort to me in my afflictions that I am fallen into the hands of a man of honour; and therefore desire you to tell me who you are? Madam, replied Sir Allan, whoever I am, in me you have a soldier to serve and honour you, as it becomes every knight to do unto all such fair ladies as you are. Ah! says the queen a day may come when perhaps I may have a better opportunity to thank you for this civility. She then desired him to be carried in a litter to the castle which he had conquered, telling him that she believed he was much wounded, but that he would there find an able chirurgeon; Sir Allan making his obeisance, modestly answered that he could not in any point of honour lay any claim thereunto; and that it was the duty of a knight to conquer for the ladies, and not to deprive them of what was their right. He then added that if she would condescend to permit him, he would accompany her into her castle, not being so very much wounded as to need a litter.

To this the queen consented, and as they walked along, Sir Allan related to her what passed in the Island of Sicily, with respect to the Giant Danagelfe, and that having received knighthood from the King of Naples, he was pursuing his voyage to Sicily, when the storm drove him upon the Unknown Island.

By this time they arrived at the castle, which

was wonderfully built; the whole fabrick without the walls was of jaſper, porphyry, black and white marble, and there were a vaſt number of towers and turrets, along which were many gilded pipes, receiving the waters from four great parts of the palace, in a ſquare; the walls within and without were adorned with the beſt ſculpture and painting; and to this palace a park adjoined, which was eighteen miles in circumference, being beautified with ſuch trees as art and nature afforded.

Though the knight was in much pain, and reſt more proper for him than to amuſe himſelf either with beholding or diſcourſing about buildings, yet ſuch was the perfection of the place, that he took great pleaſure in viewing the out-ſide.

When he came into the caſtle, a ſmall repaſt was prepared for him, and the queen committed him to the care of an old knight, who had great ſkill in chirugery; and when ſupper was ended, he was conducted into a fair chamber, and laid in a very rich bed. The queen could not take any reſt that night, the thoughts of her new gueſt, ſo fair, ſo young, and yet ſo gallant, ran in her head; ſhe ſometimes fancied him to be ſomewhat more than mortal, but then again ſhe would quickly cheque ſuch riſing whimſeys. In ſhort the little god Cupid had wounded her heart; love had taken poſſeſſion of the citadel, and ſhe could not put out of her mind the image and behaviour of the knight. On the other hand, Sir Allan felt a ſmart, which rendered him more uneaſy, than the wounds he received from his adverſaries; he had the queen conſtantly

ly before his eyes, and if at any time he could get a little ſleep, ſhe viſited his dream.

CHAP. XIV.

How the giant Boarhead, *with the countenance of an hog, ſent an inſolent letter to the Queen of the* Unknown Iſland; *of the dreadful combat that was fought between him and Sir* Allan, *who getting the victory, cut off the giant's head. Of the arrival of ſeveral knights and ladies; and how the Knight of the* White Shield *accompanied Sir* Allan *to* Sicily.

EVERY morning did the queen come to viſit Sir Allan, whoſe life ſhe eſteemed as dear as her own; and indeed to tell the truth the knight did ſet a greater value upon her, than upon all the world beſide. In leſs than a month his wounds were perfectly cured, and having vowed eternal fidelity to each other, he was upon the point of departing for Sicily, when on a ſudden a trumpet ſounded, who brought a letter to the queen from the Giant Borehead, which was to this effect:

The Giant Borehead, Lord of Swine Iſland, to the Queen of the Unknown Iſland, ſends greeting.

KNOW you, that having received certain intelligence that the Giant Frandello, *has been ſlain, and alſo four of your beſt knights, by a boy, a ſtripling*

ling; I am therefore come to demand you in marriage; and if you refuse me, I will not only compel you to it by force, but I will level your castle, and lay it flat to the ground.

The queen having read this letter, was in such perplexity, that she was ready to faint; she would willingly have concealed it from her knight; but as that was impossible to be done, she with eyes that flowed with tears, desired him to read the letter. By my head said he, I will effectually chastize the insolence of the giant; he then said to the trumpeter, return to the monster, your master, and let him know from me, that if he will appear at the bridge in an hour's time, he shall there meet with a knight who will clip the wings of his ambition, and curb his insolence. Then turning to the queen, who was bathed in tears, he said, forbear sweet lady to lament; it is impossible I can fail of success, when I espouse the cause of innocence. Then she desired to furnish him with a coat of armour, which being done, and he armed cap-a-pee, mounted his sturdy steed, and rode forth to the bridge, that led into the castle.

There he met the Giant Borebead; they ran at each other with incredible force, and charged with such vigour, that there never was seen a fiercer fight, for during the space of above two long hours. The longer they fought, the more eager they seemed to be, and it being noon, they were so hot in their harness, that they retreated a little, and lifted up the vizors of their helmets to take breath. But this did not last long,

long, ere they charged again with more fury than before, yet could not either of them gain any advantage over the other; but extremely vexed at this, they quitted their swords, and

closing, each endeavoured by his strength and skill in wrestling to throw his adversary to the ground. At last they fell upon one another without letting go their hold, each striving to get the advantage, but in vain. Thus struggling sometimes above, and sometimes under, they grew so out of breath, that they quitted their hold, and rising up took their swords again, with which they behaved so valiantly, as if they had not struck one stroke all day. The giant foaming at the mouth with rage, struck the knight with such violence, that he obliged him to set one knee to the ground. But he

soon got up again, and better to be quit with his adversary, took his sword in both hands, with which he gave him so strong a blow, that had it not met with the shield of the giant, which he opposed against, it had certainly been his last; at last the giant began visibly to grow faint and heavy, yet summoning what strength he had left, he stepped forward with great fury and with his sword gave Sir Allan such a blow, that the blood dyed his harness. Sir Allan being exceedingly incensed, resolved to make his adversary sensible of his resentment, wherefore approaching the giant, he at one blow cut off his right shoulder, who by the sudden loss of much blood, fell to the ground. The knight resolved to pursue his victory, but coming to him, found he had breathed his last, and therefore cut off his head.

The queen went forth to receive her beloved knight, whom she embraced, calling him her deliverer; and taking care to have him placed in a warm chamber, tied up his wounds with her fair hands, after that the old knight had dressed them. Early in the morning would she come to him, and attend him till bed-time, and even then would she reflect on the severe rules of modesty, by which she was constrained to go from him.

Sir Allan being recovered from his wounds, was divided between love and duty; love bid him stay to compleat his happiness, but filial duty called him to relieve his sore afflicted parents; and the latter prevailing, he one day took an opportunity to speak to the queen in this manner—'Madam, you have already done

me

me such favours, that it is impossible for so poor a knight as I am ever to return you suitable thanks; and you have been so mindful of my health, that could I die a thousand lives in your service, yet I could not make a sufficient recompence for what I have received from you. As the sun is naturally bright and cannot be otherwise, so you being descended from royal blood, cannot shew yourself other than wise, prudent, and virtuous, using sweetness and courtesy, as that with which you were born, and which naturally accompanies you, to render you the most accomplished of ladies. I must entreat you, madam, that of your usual goodness, you will pardon me the death of your people, who undoubtedly ended their days through the ill custom of the place they kept, than for any desire I had to do you a discourtesy. And I protest to you, madam, that the thoughts of my parents condition and sufferings, is the only motive that compels me to take my leave.

'Sir Allan, replied the queen, what I have done could not be admitted, without offending the three principal points requisite to a person of my condition. The first is to acknowledge in time of adversity the pleasure one has received from one's enemy; the second to shew one's-self at all times civil and compassionate, as occassion shall require; the third, never to trouble one's mind for any discontents or crosses that may happen, but that reason and discretion still keep the upper hand. These three points are evidently necessary to all generous persons, by which they will always keep their greatness firm and unchangeable: for undecaying virtue

renders

renders a person much more noble and exalted, than all the corruptible goods of fortune, which are always subject to her passions and inconstancy, and too often bestowed on such as never deserved them. But it is quite otherwise with virtue, for he alone obtains it, that does acts worthy the gaining it, and it is for that alone that men ought to be esteemed and honoured, and even reputed riches, than if they possessed all the treasure of the world; for the renown, of good and heroick actions, performed by virtuous persons, is the only true and never fading riches.

'As for the unhappy custom of this place, I submit it to you to be altered as you shall approve, for it is but reasonable that he who commands the queen, ought also to command what belongs to her; and I must needs own I applaud your filial duty in endeavouring to rescue your afflicted parents out of the hand of an unmerciful tyrant. Go on then and prosper, but promise you will return to her, who holds you much dearer than she does her own life.'

The queen presented him with her picture set with diamonds, which he received on his knees and laid close to his heart.

Presently word was brought that several knights and ladies approached near the castle, with a large retinue, whereupon a messenger was dispatched to know who they were and what was their intent? upon his return he brought word, that the knights of the White and Green Shields, with other knights, and several ladies, hearing of the beauty of the Queen of the Unknown Island, and the magnificence

nificence of her palace, were come in a friendly manner to pay their reſpects to ſo renowned a lady, and to ſatisfy their curoſity. Hereupon Sir Allan went forth to conduct them into the caſtle, were they were received and entertained moſt ſumptuouſly by the queen. But Sir Allan growing impatient till he arrived in Sicily, was obliged to diſcover the motives that induced him to part with ſuch good company in ſo abrupt a manner, but he was quickly held excuſable, every one praiſing his filial duty. And the Knight of the White Shield was ſo ſenſibly touched with the ſtory of Sir Allan, that he would accompany him; the other knights promiſing to defend the caſtle till their return, in caſe it ſhould be aſſaulted. Every thing being prepared for their voyage, Sir Allan took a private leave of the queen, whoſe tears and tender embraces manifeſted how unwilling ſhe was to part with him, then he and the Knight of the White Shield taking leave of the company, went on board a veſſel, and arrived in Sicily.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

How Sir Allan *and the Knight of the* White Shield *arrived in Sicily; the saucy message sent by the Giant* Danagelfe, *and the answer; how the giant ordered a great fire to be lighted, and bound Sir* Allan's *parents to a stake, with an intent to burn them; how he was killed by the knight, who sent his head to the King of* Naples; *and being recovered of his wounds, sailed to the* Unknown Island, *where he married the queen, and of the entertainment they met with in the garden of the palace.*

SIR Allan and the Knight of the White Shield coming on shore, walked forward to the castle, which was built of stone, as red as blood; discoursing as they went along, the Knight of the White Shield said, I have heard much talk of the Giant Danagelfe, and that he has no virtue in him, nor will he do any thing but by force. We must not therefore think of any thing but action. While he was thus speaking, he saw a 'squire riding on a nag, who without saluting them, said, 'Danagelfe, Lord of Ape's Island, greatly wonders what has moved you knights to come into this country, which is his right of conquest, and sends you word by me to come willingly into his prisons, otherwise he will put you to the most cruel death he can invent. However if Sir Allan, whose father and mother the giant detains, be one of you, he would have him understand, that he is very glad of it, in hopes to take off his head and send it with that of his father's to the wicked

ed King of Naples, with whom he so braggingly threatened him.

Sir Allan was exceedingly moved to hear himself threatened with a prison, and the loss of his own and his father's head, and angrily answered the 'squire, 'friend; return to that monster, thy master, and tell him that by the message you bring, he shews himself more foolish and proud, than we are rash in having entered the country, which he shall lose this day. Tell him that he has not any right to Sicily, which he has usurped, and got by surprize, and not by courage: tell him also that the coming of Sir Allan will make him as sad, as he brags he should be glad, and to give him certain assurance thereof, I am Sir Allan, who could not come sooner to fight with him, for want of a convenient opportunity. Let him perform his promise to me, and I will on my part keep my promise with him, which was, to present his head to the King of Naples, a prince more virtuous, than the giant your master is traiterous and wicked.

The 'squire having received his answer, set spurs to his nag, and returned by the way he came, and having delivered it to Danagelse, he was like to run mad with spite, knowing himself to be the cruellest and strongest giant in the world. He then hastily demanded his arms, which he put on, and ordered that his servants should not let Sir Allan escape; saying he would have him burned with the rest of the prisoners. He then commanded a great fire to be kindled without the castle, over against which he commanded Sir Allan's father and mother to be

bound. They knew nothing of the combat, which was to have been fought, but believed they should surely die, their flesh having been torn, and all bloody with the torments they daily suffered by the cruel giant's command.

Then Danagelfe came, to whom Sir Allan said, 'Giant it is just that before we fight, you swear to me, that if the victory should be on my side, they who belong to thee shall do me no hurt.' 'Ah! Miscreant, answered he, dost thou think that fortune will so befriend thee? no, no, I will take care to keep thee from it; and I do swear by the great Gods Jupiter and Mars, that if I can possibly avoid it, I will not kill thee in this combat, but I will take thee alive, to make thee suffer at leisure the torments of a thousand deaths, one after another.

At

At this Sir Allan advanced, and they entered into ſo wonderful a combat, that at the two firſt blows, had not their helmets been ſtrong and well ſteeled, they would have cleaved each others ſculls. But at length Sir Allan being exceedingly light and dextrous, avoided the edge of his enemy's ſword, whom he damaged ſo much, that the worſt of it fell on his ſide. However he did not ſhew himſelf to be the leaſt diſheartened; but finding that the longer they fought, the knight was ſtill luſtier, and himſelf more out of breath, he thought to ſeize him about the body, and with all his ſtrength to ſtifle him. Sir Allan, being aware of his deſign, ſtept nimbly aſide, and with a back blow wounded him deeply in the arm; yet did Danagelſe purſue his enterprize ſo cloſe, that whether Sir Allan would or no, he was obliged to ſtruggle with him. Grappling therefore each other, the knight behaved himſelf ſo well, that they were both overthrown, and ſometimes the one and ſometimes the other was uppermoſt, but could not hurt each other with their ſwords. In the mean time the Knight of the White Shield drew near to Sir Allan's father and mother, who were bound naked to a poſt, and untied them; remonſtrating to them that this combat was undertaken for their liberty by their own ſon; therefore ſaid he, pray to God that the victory may fall on his ſide. They having to this time been ignorant of the occaſion of the combat, lifted up their hands to heaven, weeping bitterly and praying devoutly.

The combatants being out of breath, got up again, and aſſaulted each other with freſh vio-

lence, each hoping to defeat his adverſary. Sir Allan perceiving his ſhield to be much hacked, and his armour died in ſeveral places with his blood, was ſo animated, that bowing down his head, he re-charged Danagelſe, and preſſed him ſo cloſe with his ſword, that his heart began to fail him; and growing heavy in his own harneſs, he who was dull and lumpiſh by nature, loſt as it were the means of lifting up his arms, either to defend or revenge himſelf. Being exceedingly vexed, he began to curſe and revile his Gods at every moment, and lifting up his cutlaſs with both hands, hoped that the blow would be proſperous; but the knight ſliped aſide, and defended himſelf with his ſhield, and intending to return the blow, his ſword moſt unfortunately ſtruck the ground, and broke into three pieces. This added freſh courage to the giant; but the Knight of the White Shield conſidering the danger of his companion, and the little means he had to help himſelf, was ſeized with ſuch fury, that forgetting the rules obſerved in all combats, he drew haſtily his ſword, and was preparing to run at Danagelſe, when Sir Allan, full of courage, and greatly diſpleaſed at ſuch an attempt, placed himſelf between them, ſaying, Ah! Sir Knight do not kill me by thinking to give me life? for I had much rather die, than you ſhould do any thing that may defraud you.

The Knight of the White Shield, ſurprized, as if he had been awakened out of a long ſleep, acknowledged his fault, and retired to give place to the enemy, who purſued Sir Allan with great rage and violence; nevertheleſs he parried

ried the giant's blows ſo well with that part of his ſhield which was left, or dexterouſly ſlipt aſide, that the other could not do him an injury. Conſidering that he muſt be overcome if the combat continued much longer, he was obliged to have recourſe to artifice; ſo bowing down his head, he ſlipt under Danagelfe, and puſhed him with ſuch force, that he fell back-

wards to the ground, and his ſword flying out of his hand, the knight ſeized it, and ſetting his foot on the giant's throat, and run the ſword into it.

The combat being over, Sir Allan went to his ſuffering parents, and aſked their bleſſing, who received their ſon with tears of joy; and he being much wounded in ſeveral places, was diſarmed, put to bed, and had his wounds dreſſ-

ed by an old man well skilled in chirugery. He then ordered all the prisoners to be released, and all being summoned into the room, he would not go to rest till he had returned thanks to heaven for the victory he obtained, by which his parents were released from cruel captivity. This being performed, he ordered the giant's head to be cut off, and putting it into a box, sent it as a present to the King of Naples; and withal gave him a particular account of the combat between himself and the giant.

When he was perfectly recovered of his wounds, he related to his parents the adventures he met with in the Unknown Island, and the obligation he was under to return thither; so that taking them along with him, and his companion, the Knight of the White Shield, they set sail with a very favourable gale of wind; and landing in a few days, rode forward with a great retinue to the castle.

He was received by the queen with all the demonstrations of joy imaginable, who also in the most obliging manner received his parents, and the Knight of the White Shield. Having refreshed themselves some days, Sir Allan courted the queen so briskly that she could not deny him any longer; and sending for one of her priests, she, led by the bridegroom, and accompanied by all the knights and ladies, entered into a spacious hall, where their hands were joined, whose hearts were united before.

In the four corners of the hall were four statues, each holding a harp of gold, and playing such melodius tunes, that the company thought they were in paradise. The walls were of pure chrystal,

chryſtal, and there were painted in gold and azure the hiſtories of the moſt glorious actions, performed by the moſt heroick knights; and the ceiling was all moſaick work in porphyry, which made the place moſt lovely.

When dinner was over, the queen deſired the company to walk in the garden, promiſing to entertain them with ſomething ſurpriſing, which was to have been performed by one who underſtood the magic art.

Riſing from their ſeats, they followed the queen, and were led into a walk, curionſly planted with orange and lemon trees, pines, olive, and palm trees and ſeveral others, wonderfully pleaſant. A little higher on a ſmall riſing was a thicket of cedars, in which were all ſorts of wild and tame creatures, and at the foot ran a ſmall river, proceeding from many fountains, in the midſt of which was a high pillar of amber, which caſt forth ſo much water that it made a lake. In the midſt of a walk on the left hand was a pedeſtal, about an hundred yards over, where were the figures of Juno, Venus, and Pallas, of white marble, and looking upon Paris, who ſlept upon a rock of chryſtal. From hence iſſued another fountain, in which they all took ſo much pleaſure, that they had no thoughts of returning; but on a ſudden there aroſe ſuch a dark cloud that they could not ſee each other, and preſently they heard a ſerpent hiſs and beat his wings, inſomuch that all the place reſounded with the noiſe. At this the ladies were ſo terrified, that they knew not what to do, but were ready to die; and unexpectedly the laſt fountain was changed

changed into a fire ſo great, that it ſeemed, as it were by degrees to ſeize upon the whole garden. To increaſe their fear, they heard, (as they immagined) a noiſe on the lake louder than thunder, and preſently from thence, a monſtrous and terrible ſerpent made towards them, caſting fire through his eyes, noſtrils, and mouth; upon the back of this ſerpent was the queen, who gave him ſuch a blow with a drawn ſword, that he leaped into the fountain; then on a ſudden the darkneſs vaniſhed, and the ſky was clear.

The knights were well pleaſed with the deluſion, but it was ſome time before the ladies could be brought to themſelves; however they recovered ſoon enough to put the queen to bed; Sir Allan followed them, and there we ſhall think proper to leave them.

KING LEAR

AND HIS

THREE DAUGHTERS.

KING Lear had three daughters, Goneril, Regan, and Cordelia; being old and infirm, he came to a reſolution to marry them, and to divide his kingdom in three equal dowries; but being deſirous, firſt of all, to know which of the three loved him beſt, he reſolved to aſk each of them the queſtion ſeperately. Goneril, the eldeſt, apprehending too well her father's weakneſs, made anſwer, that ſhe loved him better than her own ſoul; therefore (quoth the old man overjoyed) to thee, and to thy huſband whom thou ſhalt chuſe, I give the third part of my realm.

Regan, the ſecond daughter, being aſked the ſame queſtion, and hoping to poſſeſs as a large a ſhare of her father's bounty, anſwered, That ſhe loved him above all creatures; and ſo received an equal reward with her ſiſter.

The king then queſtioned Cordelia, his youngeſt daughter, whom he had hitherto loved the moſt

moſt tenderly; and who, although ſhe perceived how much her ſiſters had gained by their flattery, would not thereby be induced to make any other than an honeſt and a virtuous anſwer. Father, ſays ſhe, I love you as a child ought to love a parent: They who pretend to more than this, do but flatter you. The old man ſorry to hear this, wiſhed ſhe would recall her words, and a ſecond time demanded, what love ſhe bore him, ſhe repeated the ſame anſwer, which ſhe had made before. Hear then quoth the king, (in a violent paſſion) what thy ingratitude hath gained thee; becauſe thou haſt not reverenced thy aged father equal to thy ſiſters, thou ſhalt have no part of my kingdom or riches.

Soon after this, the two eldeſt daughters were married; Goneril to the duke of Albany, and Regan to the duke of Cornwall, giving to them half his kingdom in preſent, and promiſing the reſt at his death.

In the mean time was not ſparing to divulge the wiſdom and other graces of Cordelia, inſomuch that Allworth, a great king in Gaul, ſeeks her to wife and nothing altered at the loſs of her dowry, receives her gladly in ſuch a manner as ſuited the dignity of a princeſs.

After this, King Lear, more and more drooping with years, became an eaſy prey to his eldeſt daughters and their huſbands, who now by daily encroachments, had ſeized the whole kingdom into their hands; obliging the old king to ſojourn with his eldeſt daughter Goneril, attended only by three ſcore knights. But they in a ſhort time, being ſuppoſed too numerous and diſorderly for continual gueſts, are reduced

ced to thirty, and even of the ſet, diſcord ſoon ariſing between the ſervants of different maſters in one family, five only are ſuffered to attend him.

The good old king, big with reſentment, and almoſt heart broken, now reſolves to reſide in the palace of Regan, hoping that ſhe could not but have more pity on his grey hairs: but with her he is even refuſed admittance, unleſs he will be content with one only of his followers.

At laſt the rememberance of his Cordelia, occurs to his mind; and now acknowledging how true her words had been; though he entertained but little hopes from one whom he had ſo much injured, yet reſolved to try whether the miſery of a diſtracted old king, wore down with ſorrow and affliction, might not ſo far ſoften her, as to give him ſuccour under her more hoſpitable roof, and for this purpoſe he takes a journey into France.

Now might be ſeen a difference between the plain ſpoken affection of ſome children to their parents, and the talkative obſequiouſneſs of others, while the hopes of inheritance acts in them, and on their tongues end enlarges their duty. Cordelia out of mere love, without the ſuſpicion of expected reward, at the meſſage only of her father in diſtreſs pours forth true filial tears. And not enduring that her own or any other eye ſhould ſee him in ſuch a forlorn condition as the meſſenger deſcribed, ſhe diſcreetly appoints one of her own truſty ſervants firſt to convey him privately towards ſome good ſea-town, there to array him, bathe him, cheriſh him, and furniſh him with ſuch attendants

and

and ſtate, as beſeemed his dignity; that then, as from his firſt landing, he might ſend word of his arrival to her husband, King Allworth. Which done, with all mature and neceſſary contrivance, Cordelia, with the king, her husband, and all the barony of his realm, who then firſt had news of his paſſing the ſea, went out to meet him, and after all honourable and joyful entertainments, Allworth, as to his wife's father and royal gueſt, ſurrenders his town, diſmiſſing his ſubjects there, the power and diſpoſal of his whole dominions; permitting his wife Cordelia to go with an army, and replace her father in his throne, wherein her piety to proſper. She vanquiſhed her impious ſiſters with their forces, and Lear again obtained the crown; which he continued to enjoy ſome years in peace. When he died, Cordelia cauſed him to be buried with all legal ſolemnities in the town of

FINIS.

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